making every vote count

THE CASE FOR ELECTORAL REFORM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

BRITISH COLUMBIA CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM

TECHNICAL REPORT

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The Case for Electoral Reform in British Columbia

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Technical Report
December 2004

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ON ELECTORAL REFORM

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December 10, 2004

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Responsible for Treaty Negotiations
Ministry of the Attorney General
Province of British Columbia
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Dear Attorney General:

The British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform received its Terms of Reference on May 16, 2003. In accordance with these terms and subsequent amendment, I am pleased to present this report on behalf of the members of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

Yours respectfully,

Jack Blaney

Jack Blaney
Chair

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Acknowledgements

Never before in modern history has a democratic government given to unelected, "ordinary" citizens the power to review an important public policy, and then seek from all citizens approval of any proposed changes to that policy. The British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform has had this power and responsibility and, throughout its life, complete independence from government.

I want to acknowledge this unique gift by first thanking Premier Gordon Campbell for creating the Assembly. While several community leaders promoted the idea, it was the premier, in collaboration with Attorney General Geoff Plant, who took the steps necessary to create and secure the Assembly.

I also want to recognize the role of the provincial legislature. The Terms of Reference, as well as the conditions governing any referendum, were approved by the Legislative Assembly in unanimous votes. Members of our Legislative Assembly united in making history.

The members of the Citizens' Assembly—British Columbians who unstintingly gave their time and energy—demonstrated how extraordinary ordinary citizens are when given an important task, and the resources and independence to do it right. Over the eleven-month course of the Assembly, only one of 161 members withdrew and attendance was close to perfect. Their great and lasting achievement is the birth of a new tool for democratic governance.

With an impressive commitment to learning so many new concepts and skills, and with a grace and respect for one another in their discussions that was truly remarkable, the Assembly members demonstrated a quality of citizenship that inspired us all. My deepest thanks and regard go to each and every one of them.

The idea of a citizens' assembly—its unique authority and its importance as a democratic process—clearly exerted a powerful force, attracting highly-talented staff, researchers and administrators to its cause. Their work enriched the Assembly's work, and all staff members performed their tasks with exceptional professionalism and integrity. Twelve-hour days, seven-days-a-week were common; they willingly provided anything that the Assembly needed to get the job done and done right. In each session's evaluation Assembly members consistently gave to staff their highest marks.

The facilitators—graduate students in political science from Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia—were also exceptional. These outstanding, exemplary colleagues deserve enormous credit for the Assembly's achievements.

All Assembly members and staff are indebted to Gordon Gibson. At the government's request, he prepared the *Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform*. With few variations, we followed Mr. Gibson's clear and sensible plan. And, during the Assembly's tenure, I often consulted Mr. Gibson for his wise, helpful and objective advice.

The Legislative Assembly established a Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. The Committee's tasks were to review the appointments of the Chair and senior staff, and to receive reports on the progress of the Assembly. This Committee and its Clerk, Craig James, through prudent questions and comments provided especially helpful advice. The two Chairs, first John Les, and then Jeff Bray, were always available. The other Committee members were Kevin Krueger (Deputy Chair), Elaine Brenzinger, Ida Chong (first committee), Blair Lekstrom, Joy MacPhail, Rob Nijjar and Judith Reid.

Prior to the creation of the Citizens' Assembly, several community leaders, such as Rafe Mair and Nick Loenen, promoted the idea of a citizens' assembly, or "constituents' assembly," to review our electoral system. Their early work helped to seed the Assembly's development.

I also want to thank and recognize the contributions of Harry Neufeld, Chief Electoral Officer, and Linda Johnson, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, of Elections BC who were essential and very helpful partners throughout the Assembly's work; Neil Reimer, David Winkler, Carol Anne Rolf and Lesley Wolfe-Milner of the Attorney General's ministry, who helped us use government services in ways that supported our independence; members of the Research Advisory Committee from the University of BC, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria; and the staff of the Delta Vancouver Suites and Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, who adopted us as a special family.

I also want to thank several individuals and organizations who provided outstanding services and advice: Harbour Centre Travel Ltd. (Phil Storey and Jude Harms); Harbour Centre Printing & Copying (Cholo Cebrero); The Pace Group (Norman Stowe); Visual Communications (Anthea Lee); Aspen Promotions Inc. (Peggy Irvine); The Level – Web Strategies (Jeff Sinclair); Karo Design (Anton Lee); Holloway Schulz & Partners Inc. (Lorna Court); Kathy Griffiths; Paul Harris; and Advanture Consulting (Joel Shapiro).

And the heartiest of thanks to those citizens who attended hearings and made presentations and submissions, and to all British Columbians—your support made possible this wonderful invention in the practice of democracy.

Jack Blaney

Jack Blaney, Chair

making every vote count

The following section is an excerpt from the *Final Report of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform*, presented to the Attorney General and the people of British Columbia on December 10, 2004.

"We are here to invent a new way to engage citizens in the practice of democracy...."

The British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform: Final Report

To the Honourable Geoff Plant, Attorney General, and

To the people of British Columbia

The members of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform feel exceptionally honoured to have been given this historic opportunity to serve British Columbians on a matter so central to our democracy.

Our mandate was to assess different models for electing members of the Legislative Assembly and to recommend whether our current system for provincial elections should be retained or whether a new model should be adopted. Elsewhere, such a task has been given to politicians or to electoral experts. Instead, British Columbia chose to make history and to give this task to the voters.

For eleven months we have studied voting systems, we have listened to thousands of British Columbians in 50 public hearings and received and read 1,603 written submissions. What we most wanted to learn was what values, hopes and desires should underlie our electoral system and which principles should direct our decisions and recommendation. This work has led us to the following recommendation:

> *The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform recommends our province adopt a new voting system, which we call "BC-STV." This single transferable vote system is customized for this province. It is fair and easy to use, and it gives more power to voters.*

BC-STV is easy to use. Voters rank candidates according to their preferences.

BC-STV gives fair results. The object is to make every vote count so that each party's share of seats in the legislature reflects its share of voter support.

BC-STV gives more power to voters. Voters decide which candidates within a party, or across all parties, are elected. All candidates must work hard to earn every vote, thereby strengthening effective local representation.

BC-STV gives greater voter choice. Choosing more than one member from a riding means that voters will select members of the Legislative Assembly from a greater range of possible candidates.

On May 17, 2005 the referendum question placed before all voters will be this:

> *Should British Columbia change to the BC-STV electoral system as recommended by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform? Yes/No*

We know that a new voting system will take time to become a smooth working part of our political life and we believe that it should be reviewed after it has been used for three provincial elections and that citizens should be involved in the review.

In the rest of this report we compare our current voting system with BC-STV. We outline how BC-STV will work and why we believe this system will best serve this diverse province. A second volume, the Technical Report, addresses all aspects of our work and deliberations in detail. Information on how to get a copy of the Technical Report can be found on the last page of this report.

Together these two reports complete our work. The next decision belongs to all British Columbians.

Basic values

Through our work and by listening to British Columbians, we have identified three basic values which we believe should form the basis of our electoral system. These are:

Fair Election Results through Proportionality

Democracy is "rule by the people," therefore, the results of an election—the number of seats won by each party—should reflect the number of votes each party has earned from the voters. The results—votes to seats—should be "proportional."

No electoral system does this perfectly, but that does not reduce the importance of proportionality. Proportional election results are the fairest election results. The preference of voters should determine who sits in our legislature. That is fair.

Effective Local Representation

Each community has a distinct personality; each makes its own unique contribution to our provincial life. To be effectively represented, each community needs the opportunity to choose the people who speak for it in the legislature, and to hold them accountable in democratic elections.

Effective local representation has long been a principle of our democratic tradition. It is central to our electoral politics. Strengthening local representation should be a test of any electoral reform.

Greater Voter Choice

As citizens, we all are responsible for the health of our democracy, and therefore we must have the fullest possible opportunity to choose the candidates that best represent our interests. Our choice in elections should include choosing among party candidates, as well as across all parties. To give voters a stronger voice, greater voter choice should be part of our voting system.

In addition to these values, two issues were consistently highlighted in our discussions on choosing an electoral system.

The Voter and Political Parties

There is a groundswell of opposition in this province to the current imbalance of power between voters and parties. Indeed, some of the submissions we received called for banning parties on the grounds that they so dominate electoral politics that local representation is undermined by party discipline and practices, and voter choice is stifled.

While concerned about this imbalance, we recognize that parliamentary government depends on parties to conduct elections, organize the work of the legislature and carry out the business of government. We believe that the solution lies in adopting an electoral system that encourages voters and politicians to work together in a balanced partnership.

The Voter and Majority, Coalition and Minority Governments

Most often in Canada—both provincially and federally—parties that form majority governments earn much less than half of the vote, but take well over half of the seats.

These are called "artificial majorities." Nonetheless, Canadians are so familiar with single-party majority governments that we easily assume they are the natural outcome of elections.

A majority government, real or artificial, will claim a mandate and act on it. And it can easily be held accountable at the next election. However, we are convinced that the simple nature of majority governments should not override the basic values of fair election results, effective local representation, and greater voter choice. Most other successful western democracies do not depend on majorities, yet have stable and effective governments, governments that often are both inclusive of different interests and consensual in making decisions.

We have all seen ineffective or divisive majority governments, and we have seen progressive and successful minority governments that work through legislative coalitions, particularly the federal governments of the 1960s.

We believe that our electoral system should not override fairness and choice in favour of producing artificial single-party majority governments.

The current system of voting in BC

The Case for Majority Government

For most of our history this province has used a "single-member plurality" electoral system, popularly referred to as "First-Past-the-Post" (FPTP). The first candidate to cross the finish line—the one with the most votes—wins the seat and represents the local district in the legislature. Governments are formed by the party with the most seats. It is a simple system.

Supporters of FPTP typically argue for its ability to produce majority governments, often cautioning against the unequal power small parties might exercise in coalition or minority governments. Governments with a legislative majority may claim a mandate for action. They do not have to bargain with other parties to act on their policies, but can plan and take the administrative and financial decisions necessary to implement their program. Similarly, at election time, voters know who is responsible for the government's successes or failures and can clearly indicate which party they wish to govern the province.

This tendency toward majority government is FPTP's most important feature: without it, British Columbia would not have had majority governments throughout much of its recent history. In fact, British Columbians have only rarely given one party a majority of their votes.

Does FPTP Meet the Needs of British Columbia?

A basic principle of FPTP is local representation—every corner of the province is represented in the legislature. Voters directly choose who they wish to represent them and their community, with every area of the province choosing one representative.

We believe local representation must be a fundamental objective of any British Columbian electoral system. However, although local representation based on the FPTP system has worked in the past, it is now seen as too easily compromised in at least two ways.

- Citizens wishing to support a particular party must vote for the single candidate the party offers and not necessarily for the local candidate they may prefer. This often means that the real competition is for a party's nomination and not for the voters' support on election day.
- Party discipline quickly turns members of the Legislative Assembly into party advocates rather than local advocates. Many British Columbians now see MLAs as providing "Victoria's" voice to the people, rather than the people's voice to Victoria.

FPTP is a simple system—voters need only place an "X" beside the name of an individual. However, FPTP does not promise or provide fair election results. There is no logical or systematic relationship between a party's total share of the votes cast and its seats in the legislature. Local candidates do not have to win a majority in their district to win a seat. In exceptional cases—for example, in British Columbia in 1996—this meant that the party with the most votes lost the election. Governments elected with fewer votes than their opponents are not legitimate in a modern democracy.

The FPTP system can produce other undesirable outcomes. In the 2001 election, the opposition was reduced to two of 79 seats in the legislature, despite winning 42% of the popular vote. Not only is this obviously unfair, it weakens the opposition so greatly that the legislature cannot hold Government to account. The very principle of responsible government, the heart of our constitution, is thrown into question. Many citizens understand that the current system is responsible for these results and believe that they are neither fair nor acceptable.

A great many British Columbians told us that political parties too easily dominate this system, that it produces a style of local representation that is easily stifled by party discipline, that it fails to connect voters' decisions with election results, and that it offers minimal choices to voters. We agree.

BC-STV: A new way of voting in BC

BC-STV is a "single transferable vote" (STV) system. The main feature of these systems is that, rather than marking an "X" beside one name, voters number candidates from most favourite to least favourite (i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.). If a voter's favourite candidate (#1) is not elected, or has more votes than are needed to be elected, then the voter's vote is "moved" to his or her next most favourite candidate (#2). The vote is transferred rather than wasted. The aim of this system is to make all votes count.

We are recommending that British Columbians adopt BC-STV as their voting system. We are convinced that this system best incorporates the values of fair election results, effective local representation, and greater voter choice.

Fair Election Results

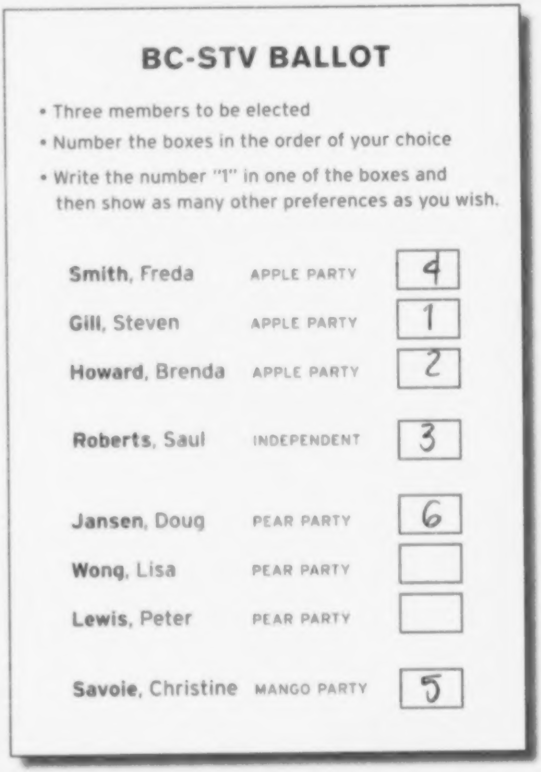
Proportionality—ensuring that each party's share of seats in the legislature reflects its actual share of votes—is the basis of fair election results. A proportional system needs multi-member districts so that the share of seats in the legislature can reflect the votes cast by British Columbians and that voters can elect candidates that represent their true preferences.

Proportionality is not possible in our current single-member districts, so electoral districts will be amalgamated to provide between two and seven members for each new district. To provide for the fairest results, districts will be designed to have as many members as possible. The number of MLAs in the legislature will not necessarily change; nor will the number of MLAs for any particular region change.

BC-STV will produce fair results but not the kind of extreme fragmentation that different proportional systems have promoted in countries such as Israel.

Effective Local Representation

There are two road blocks to effective local representation in British Columbia. The first is geographic, the second political. BC-STV removes both of these.



BC-STV BALLOT

- Three members to be elected
- Number the boxes in the order of your choice
- Write the number "1" in one of the boxes and then show as many other preferences as you wish.

Smith, Freda	APPLE PARTY	4
Gill, Steven	APPLE PARTY	1
Howard, Brenda	APPLE PARTY	2
Roberts, Saul	INDEPENDENT	3
Jansen, Doug	PEAR PARTY	6
Wong, Lisa	PEAR PARTY	
Lewis, Peter	PEAR PARTY	
Savoie, Christine	MANGO PARTY	5

First preferences—a 1 in the box next to a candidate's name—are counted first. Second and subsequent preferences are counted only as needed.

Geographic: MLAs are expected to represent their local communities. In British Columbia this can mean providing effective representation for citizens that live in relatively small, densely populated urban areas, or in large, thinly populated rural areas of the province. Those of us from the rural and more remote corners of the province understand the problems that long distances create for participating in public meetings or contacting an MLA.

BC-STV will adapt to different regional needs. Electoral districts in our new system will be organized to reduce these difficulties while ensuring proportionality. In the north and south-east this means adopting districts of two to three members. In the south-central and south-west of the province this means new districts of between four and seven members. The number of members for each region will remain the same; no region will lose representation, but each will contribute to better proportionality.

Political: In our current electoral systems, political parties, not voters, control the way MLAs represent their communities. BC-STV corrects this imbalance by being voter-centred and candidate-focused: to be elected, candidates will need to put communities first.

HOW BC-STV WORKS*

- Electoral districts have more than just one MLA.
- Voters rank the candidates in the order of their preference—1, 2, 3, 4 etc.
- The number of votes needed for election (called the quota) is calculated.
- Everyone's first preference vote is counted.
- Any candidates that reach the quota are elected.
- If a candidate has more votes than necessary those votes are not wasted but transferred to the voter's second choice.
- If no one is elected the person with the fewest votes is dropped and their votes transferred to the voter's next preference.
- The process continues until a district has elected all its MLAs.
- Few votes are wasted so most voters make a difference to getting someone elected.
- Because this is a proportional system the number of seats a party wins matches their share of the popular vote.

*A full description of the technical aspects of the proposed system can be found in the section entitled "The Recommended BC-STV Electoral System" in the *Technical Report.*

Greater Voter Choice

BC-STV increases choices, allowing voters a much greater say in determining who will be their local representatives. It allows voters to choose between candidates and parties, it lets voters show which candidates they prefer and in what order, and it ensures that their preferences count. This will provide increased opportunities for candidates from under-represented groups.

BC-STV is also the only proportional system that allows independent candidates a real chance to be elected. Although increasingly rare, we believe that independents must have opportunities to participate in our provincial elections equal to candidates who work through political parties.

BC-STV responds to British Columbia's basic values. It provides for fair election results, effective local representation, and greater voter choice, and it best balances these three values of electoral politics. Similar systems have been used successfully—in some cases for decades—to elect members to various positions in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland, countries that share our Westminster parliamentary tradition. The Irish government has twice tried to use referendums to abolish STV, but the voters said "No." This is a system designed by voters for voters.

Ballots and By-elections

Ballots in multi-member districts can be organized in a number of ways. Because we know that parties play an important role in our parliamentary system, and because some British Columbians will want to vote for a party, we are recommending that candidates be grouped by party on the ballot. However, in order to ensure that no candidate or party benefits from the order that names appear on the ballot, we recommend that both be randomly ordered on individual ballots.

We further recommend that when a legislative seat becomes vacant, the by-election to fill the seat should use the same ballots. Where there is only one seat to be filled, the winning candidate will need to get 50% + one of the votes cast to be elected.

What happens if we adopt BC-STV in BC?

If British Columbians vote to accept the BC-STV electoral system on May 17, 2005, the politics and governance of our province will change.

For some British Columbians it is clear that the greatest change—and the greatest regret—will be the loss of easily achieved majority governments. BC-STV can produce a majority government if a majority of voters vote for one party. While this is possible, the province's history suggests that governments under the new system will likely be a minority or a coalition of two or more parties. This will mean a change in party organization and practices; parties will need to be more responsive to the voters and less adversarial with their opponents and partners.

Our electoral districts will grow geographically under BC-STV, but the number of voters per MLA will not change. Voters will have more than one MLA representing them in Victoria, more than one person to turn to for help. Because each district is likely to elect members from different parties in proportion to the votes cast, voters may well be able to go to an MLA who shares their political views. This will help provide more effective local representation.

Perhaps the most significant change for voters and candidates will strike closer to home. There will be no more "safe seats" that a party can win no matter who it runs as its candidate.

Changes for Voters

Voters will have more power. This means voters will make more and different kinds of choices.

For example, voters will be able to consider candidates and parties, rather than simply putting an "X" beside one person's name. Staunch party supporters will be able to rank their party's candidates. Both of these changes will mean that candidates will have to work hard to earn voters' first preference support.

Changes for Candidates and MLAs

With the loss of safe seats, no candidate, including sitting MLAs, will be able to count on winning election. Under BC-STV, voters will decide which of a party's several candidates are elected in each district. A party's candidates will compete not only against those in other parties for first preference support, they will also compete against candidates from their own party. Recognizing that they may not be "first preference" on enough ballots to win a seat, candidates will need to encourage supporters of other candidates to mark them as their second or third preference. This need to appeal to a greater number of voters should lower the adversarial tone of election contests: voters are unlikely to respond positively to someone who aggressively insults their first choice.

In order to stand out from other candidates, MLAs will need to clearly represent their districts. This will reinforce effective local representation and encourage MLAs to resist party discipline when it is not in the community's interests. MLAs will have to work harder to ensure that their party's positions reflect their constituents' views.

Changes for Parties

Parties will run several candidates in the new multi-member electoral districts. This should encourage parties to nominate a diversity of candidates within a district so that they can appeal to the groups and interests that have been under-represented or ignored in our current "winner-take-all" FPTP system.

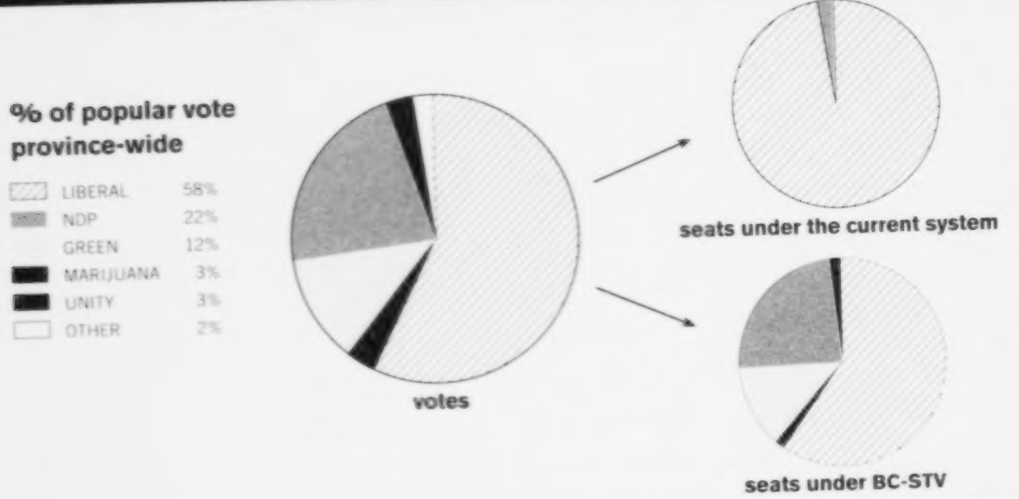
Because the voter will have real power in determining who is elected, parties will have a reason to involve more citizens in their organizations and to make their nominating processes more open and accessible. Because legislative caucuses will include MLAs whose continuing electoral success will depend on representing their local communities, regardless of party policies, the pressures of party discipline will decrease. Our politicians will be better able to represent faithfully the interests of our communities, as well as the province as a whole.

And finally, a party's strength in the legislature will reflect its actual support among voters—not more, not less. Having lost the ability to win artificial majorities, parties will have to learn to work together. This will not reduce the competitive character of British Columbia's politics, but it may engender a more consensual style of decision-making in which broad agreement is sought for major policy changes.

Changes for the Legislative Assembly

The most immediate and dramatic change to the Legislative Assembly will be that its power to choose and effectively supervise governments will be restored. The basic theory of our parliamentary system is that governments are chosen by, and are responsible to, the legislature. However, the presence of strictly disciplined parties, enlarged by artificial majorities, has reversed this principle, making the legislature a creature of the government.

THE CHANGE IF BC-STV HAD BEEN IN PLACE IN THE LAST ELECTION



BC-STV will end artificial majorities. Governments will need to depend on winning the support of a majority of the legislature and will be able to pass only those laws that a majority of MLAs support.

The Legislative Assembly will adapt to these new realities. MLAs will be more sensitive to local interests, and the concerns and hopes of voters will be more commonly heard in the legislature. At the same time, legislative committees will take on a more important role in debating and deciding important public policy issues.

Changes for Provincial Governments

The BC-STV system will end majority governments built on a minority of votes. No single party will be able to implement a platform without meaningful public debate in the legislature.

Unless a majority of voters support candidates from one party, future governments will likely be minorities or coalitions of more than one party. Some coalitions will form before elections in the hope of attracting enough votes to gain a majority; others will form when the elected members find out how much support the voters have given them.

Coalition governments, and the more consensual decision-making they require, are normal in most western democracies. The experience of coalition governments in other successful parliamentary systems has been positive and we expect no less from our elected representatives and parties. Governments will depend on members from different parties deciding to work together and making agreements that command broad public support. With BC-STV, the people will get the government they vote for.

In conclusion

We are convinced that British Columbia will improve its practice of democracy by adopting BC-STV. Election results will be fairer, reflecting a balance between votes and seats, voters will have more choice and candidates will work harder to earn their support. Political parties will remain at the centre of the electoral process, but they will give up some of the excesses of party discipline and the adversarial style that alienates many voters. The Legislative Assembly will be strengthened in its ability to hold governments accountable.

No one in the Assembly is so naive as to think that BC-STV will answer every call for change or correct every inequality or inefficiency in our province's political system. We have come to believe, however, that by changing the electoral system we can build a political climate that is more faithful to the values that most British Columbians want as the foundations of our political life.

British Columbians have an unprecedented opportunity to take control of some of the most important rules of democracy. After considering all of the options—including doing nothing—we are convinced that by adopting the BC-STV electoral system the voters will create a system where they, the voters themselves, are closer to the centre of the system. In a democracy, that is what "fair" is about.

Jack Blaney

On behalf of the 160 members of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

Other Issues Raised by British Columbians

The mandate of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was specific and clear: we were to make a recommendation on the model that should be used in our province for electing members to the Legislative Assembly. The clarity of that mandate helped us to focus our attention on the work at hand. That said, a number of "non-mandate" issues were raised by British Columbians at our public hearings, in the many community meetings members participated in, and through the submissions we received.

We did not engage in any sustained debate on non-mandate issues and are not prepared to discuss them in detail or offer specific recommendations. However, we do believe that these issues provided a wider context for our deliberations on the values British Columbians hold and that they have informed our decisions. For these and other reasons we are reporting on them so that they might lead to further discussion and in that way contribute to our democracy. It is in our collective interest to find ways to continue this public dialogue.

Enthusiasm for citizen involvement in electoral reform

At every meeting and public hearing, members of the public stated that they were extremely pleased that the government had entrusted electoral reform to citizens. They supported both the concept and work of the Assembly and appreciated the fact that any recommendation for change would go to a referendum. In fact, many people who came to the hearings indicated a strong preference for change, and that they trusted their fellow citizens (the Assembly) to decide which system would be best for British Columbia. They believed that the process used by the Assembly represents the "gold standard" for citizen participation and that future governments should maintain this new standard.

Many of the citizens who advocated changing the electoral system urged that a new system be given a reasonable opportunity to prove itself. (This led the Assembly to note in its Final Report that a formal review of the BC-STV system should not take place until it has been used for three elections.) The apparent success of the Assembly, and the public's response to its work, also led many participants to suggest that any future review of the electoral system should involve meaningful citizen participation and that any review resulting in recommendations for change should be followed by a provincial referendum.

Facilities for access to local members

Effective local representation is an important part of our political tradition and remains central to how British Columbians wish our parliamentary system to work, regardless of the electoral system used in this province. Consequently, many citizens urged us to tell the legislature that they will support efforts to make it easier for voters and MLAs to communicate with one another. This might mean more resources for members in large rural ridings to help them operate more than one constituency office, or it might mean an increase in allowances for MLAs to help them make timely and regular visits to all of the communities in their district. New technology—1-800 numbers and computer aided communication—should also be used to bring voters and their MLAs closer together and the Legislative Assembly should publicize and support these tools.

The physical size of ridings will increase if the province adopts BC-STV. While not a major challenge in urban areas, this change may create difficulties for voters and MLAs in remote and thinly populated rural parts of the province to have reasonable access to each other.

The role and operation of political parties

Most members of the public agree with the Assembly that political parties have and will continue to play an important role in educating and mobilizing voters, structuring electoral choice, and producing support for governments in the Legislative Assembly.

However, an aspect of the operation of political parties of concern to many citizens is the extent to which the internal decision-making processes of parties—and issues related to parliamentary reform—are open, transparent and free from central control. Even though parties remain voluntary organizations, the public repeatedly told the Assembly that they believe our political parties must meet minimum standards of openness and democracy if they are to retain public confidence. This is particularly the case for the process of candidate nomination, which structures the choices voters have on their ballots.

Public participation in BC's democracy

At almost every public hearing, and in many submissions, members of the public expressed great concern about sharply-declining voter turnout for elections—especially among the young—that, left unchecked, could lead to a crisis for democracy. Many participants believe that this decline reflects a growing sense among the public that our political system does not respond to community needs.

Many of the British Columbians who came to hearings, or wrote to the Assembly, argued that not enough progress has been made in opening up the legislative process to fuller participation by women, First Nations peoples and minorities. Certainly members of the Assembly were themselves struck by the benefits gained by the involvement of an equal number of men and women in our work. Similarly, the urban/rural mix, the energy and innovation of youth, the wisdom of experience and the richness of British Columbia's cultural diversity all enhanced the legitimacy of the Assembly among the public and brought a wide range of views to our deliberations. We think that our experience has much to teach political parties and other organizations in our society.

It should be noted that the Assembly's membership included people from many of the province's ethnic communities. While that membership included some First Nations people, we heard little at hearings or in submissions from members of our aboriginal communities. We recognize that many aboriginal British Columbians are fully engaged in the life of their nations, and in the important issues of treaties and land claims. However, many other British Columbians believe that finding ways for all of us, aboriginal and non-aboriginal, to work together to improve our common electoral processes would be a good thing for the whole province.

The Recommended BC-STV Electoral System

This section describes the recommended BC-STV system. It provides guidelines to be used in drafting a new election act and in making changes to the current Electoral Boundaries Commission Act.

In addition to choosing an electoral system that incorporates its basic values, the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform wanted a system that is open to public scrutiny and whose results can be reviewed and validated. Consequently, BC-STV is designed to use paper ballots which are available for recount, if required.

General

1. BC-STV is a system of proportional representation by the single transferable vote (STV) method.
2. The members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia will be elected from multi-member electoral districts.
3. The number of members in each district will vary from two (2) to seven (7). Given that achieving proportional electoral outcomes is a primary reason for recommending BC-STV, using larger rather than smaller numbers of members per district should always be preferred when drawing district boundaries.

   While some very sparsely populated areas may require districts with as few as two members, the principle of proportionality dictates that, in the most densely populated urban areas, districts should be created at the upper end of the range.
4. The "Droop quota" will be the formula for calculating the number of votes required by a candidate for election in a district. The quota formula is:

   $$\left(\frac{\text{total number of valid ballots cast in the district}}{1 + \text{number of members to be elected}} \right) + 1$$

   Fractions are ignored.
5. The method of distributing surplus votes from those candidates with more than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected will be the "Weighted Inclusive Gregory method" (see below, as well as *Appendix: Glossary*).

The ballot paper

1. The ballot paper will display the names of all the candidates contesting seats for a district. The names will be grouped according to party affiliation.
2. Candidates who do not indicate a party affiliation, and candidates who do not indicate that they are running as an independent, will be grouped together.
3. Parties with only one candidate, and each candidate running as an independent, will each have their own group.
4. Groupings with more than one candidate in a district will have the rank order of the candidates' names rotated at random so that each candidate has an equal chance of being placed in every position within the grouping.
5. The rank order of groupings appearing on the ballot will be rotated at random so that each grouping has an equal chance of being placed in every position on the ballot paper.
6. The ballot paper will not provide the option of voting for all the candidates of one group

by marking a party box (this is the so called "above the line" option used in some Australian elections).

Valid ballots

1. Voters will indicate their preference for the candidates listed on the ballot paper by putting the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. next to candidates' names.
2. A ballot paper must include a first preference for the ballot to be counted as a valid ballot. The number of subsequent preferences marked on the ballot is at the discretion of the voter.
3. In the case of a ballot paper with gaps or repetitions in the sequence of numbers beyond a first preference, the preferences are valid up to the break in the sequence.
4. If a voter puts a mark next to only one candidate's name, and that mark makes the voter's intention clear, the mark will be accepted as the expression of a single preference for that candidate and the ballot will be counted as a valid ballot.

Counting procedure rules

1. Once the total number of valid ballots is established in each multi-member district, the minimum number of votes required for a candidate to be elected is calculated using the Droop quota formula.
2. All ballots are counted and each ballot is allocated as a vote to the candidate against whose name a first preference (i.e., "1") is shown on the ballot.
3. If a candidate(s) on the first count has a number of first preference votes exactly equal to the minimum number of votes needed to be elected, then that candidate(s) is declared elected and the counted ballot papers indicating that candidate(s) as a first preference are put aside and the other preferences recorded on the ballots are not examined.
4. If a candidate on the first count gains more than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected, the candidate is declared elected, and the number of votes in excess of the number of votes needed to be elected (the surplus) is recorded. All of the elected candidate's ballots are then re-examined and assigned to candidates not yet elected according to the second preferences marked on the ballots of those who gave a first preference vote to the elected candidate. These votes are allocated according to a "transfer value." The formula for the transfer value is:

$$\frac{\text{surplus votes cast for the elected candidate}}{\text{total number of votes received by the elected candidate}}$$

5. If two or more candidates on the first count gain more than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected, all of those candidates are declared elected. The ballots of the candidate with the largest number of first preference votes will be re-examined first and assigned (at the transfer value) to candidates not yet elected according to the second preferences marked on that candidate's ballots, or the next available preference, if the second preference candidate has already been elected. The ballots of the other elected candidate(s) will then be re-examined and

their surpluses distributed in order according to the number of first preference votes each candidate received.

6. If a candidate reaches more than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected as the consequence of a transfer of votes from an elected candidate, the number of votes in excess of the number of votes needed to be elected (the surplus) will be transferred to other candidates. This transfer will be to the next available preference shown on all of this candidate's ballots. These ballots now include 1) the candidate's first preference ballots, and 2) the parcel(s) of ballots transferred to the candidate from one or more elected candidates.

   The transfer value for the candidate's first preference ballots is:

$$\frac{\text{surplus votes cast for the elected candidate}}{\text{total number of votes received by the elected candidate}}$$

   The transfer value for each parcel of ballots transferred to the candidate from one or more elected candidates is:

$$\left(\frac{\text{surplus votes cast for the candidate}}{\text{total number of votes received by the candidate}}\right) \text{X} \left(\text{the transfer value of the parcel of ballots received by the candidate}\right)$$

7. If no candidate has a number of votes equal to or greater than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected, the candidate with the smallest number of votes is excluded. All of that candidate's ballots—both first preference ballots and any parcel or parcels of ballots transferred from other candidates—are transferred to candidates who have not been elected or excluded according to the next available preference shown on the excluded candidate's ballots.

   The excluded candidate's first preference ballots are transferred to the second (or next available) preferences at full value. Ballots received from previously-elected (or excluded) candidates are transferred at the transfer value at which the ballots were received.

8. Counting continues in the described sequence: the surplus of elected candidates is assigned until no more candidates are elected, then the ballots of excluded candidates are assigned until another candidate is elected.

   When all but one of the candidates to be elected from the district have been elected, and only two candidates remain in the count, the candidate with the most votes is declared elected, even though the candidate may not have reached the minimum number of votes (the quota) needed to be elected.

9. If, during the transfer of preferences, a ballot paper does not indicate an available preference, the ballot is put aside as "exhausted." This can occur because:
   - the voter only indicated one, or a small number of preferences;
   - all the preferred candidates have already been elected or excluded; or
   - there are gaps or repetitions on the ballot in the sequence of numbering preferences.

Provisions for tied votes

10. Where two or more candidates have the same number of first preference votes at the end of the first count, and this number is more than the minimum number of votes necessary for election, then the candidate whose surplus is distributed first will be decided by lot.

11. Where no candidate has a number of first preference votes equal to or greater than the number of votes necessary for election at the end of the first count, and two or more candidates have the same number of first preference votes, this number being the smallest number of first preference votes gained by any candidate, then the candidate who is excluded first will be decided by lot.

12. If, at any stage of the count other than during the first count, two candidates have the same number of votes, the candidate who is declared elected first, or who is not excluded will be:
    a. the candidate with the larger number of votes in the previous or immediately next preceding count where there is a difference in the votes between the two candidates; or
    b. the candidate whose name is drawn by lot, where there is no difference in the number of votes between the candidates at any preceding count.

By-elections

The single transferable vote method (preferential voting) is to be used for by-elections where a candidate is to be elected to fill a single casual vacancy in a district. The BC-STV method is to be used where candidates are to be elected to fill two or more casual vacancies in a district.

the assembly's work

Introduction

The current Government of British Columbia publicly committed itself to establishing a citizens' assembly while still in opposition. They acted on this commitment after being elected by first appointing Gordon Gibson, a prominent British Columbian with extensive experience in the areas of public policy, governance, federalism and aboriginal relations, to make "recommendations for the appointment, size, composition and administrative structure of the Citizens' Assembly," including:

- *ensuring that the Assembly is representative of the province as a whole, can operate effectively and is affordable;*
- *recommending a governance model for the Assembly;*
- *developing guidelines to ensure its recommendations will be compatible with the Constitution of Canada and with the Westminster parliamentary system;*
- *developing guidelines and a timetable to ensure that any recommendation for change will be made in sufficient time to allow consideration at a referendum held at the same time as the next provincial general election on May 17, 2005;*
- *developing guidelines on the wording of questions; and*
- *developing a budget for the above.*

The mandate included the requirement that the proposed assembly be "appointed by a random selection process."

Gibson's *Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform* was tabled in December 2002. The government adopted a majority of its recommendations (see *Appendix: Government Decisions*) and on April 30, 2003 formally asked the House to support the creation of a citizens' assembly. The motion was approved unanimously.

A special committee of the legislature--the Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform[1]—was established to review the appointment of the Assembly chair and senior staff appointments, and receive interim reports from the chair on the progress of the Assembly's work. (See *Appendix: Committees* for mandate and membership.)

The remainder of this report describes the organization and activities of the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. (See Appendix: History of the Assembly). The first section describes the human, technical and other resources that supported its work. This is followed by a description of the four process phases that the Assembly went through—selection, learning, public hearings, and deliberation—as well as the internal evaluations conducted by the Assembly, and the Assembly's communications strategy.

The appendices provide the names of those British Columbians who made presentations to the Assembly, or sent the Assembly a written submission. They also include examples of the evaluation tools used by the Assembly, information on the design of the Assembly websites, a glossary of terms and other useful information.

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[1] http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/cmt/37thparl/session-4/citizen/index.htm

Establishing a Secretariat

The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was supported by a secretariat. This office was responsible for all administrative and research support. That said, many Assembly members contributed valuable time and energy to researching issues for the Assembly and to organizing specific Assembly activities.

Human resources

Full-time administrative and research staff

The government began the process of implementing the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform by nominating Dr. Jack Blaney to chair the Assembly. The nomination was confirmed by the Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform and unanimously approved by the provincial legislature.

Following his confirmation, the chair met with the Special Committee to discuss senior staffing needs and appointment criteria. The latter included, but was not limited to:

- competence;
- proven record of working without bias;
- integrity;
- great people skills; and
- flexibility with working hours.

"Diversity in staff" was also an objective.

The chair provided overall leadership and stewardship for the Assembly and its staff. The *chair:*

- selected senior staff and sought the confirmation of the Special Committee;
- provided overall leadership and direction for all phases of the Assembly;
- maintained liaison with Assembly members, the Special Committee, government, media, the public and other jurisdictions;
- developed policies and procedures for the operation of the Assembly; and
- chaired all meetings of the Assembly.

The first administrative positions to be filled included the office manager, executive assistant to the chair, and a recruitment assistant/project coordinator. The *office manager:*

- set up and furnished the Assembly's offices;
- supervised office staff;
- managed the administrative and financial procedures with counterparts from the Ministry of the Attorney General;
- coordinated travel and accommodation;
- managed expense reimbursement for the Assembly members and staff; and
- addressed any other logistical needs of the Assembly.

The *executive assistant to the chair* provided logistical services including assisting the chair in liaising with Assembly members, ministry officials, media, and the broader public. The position also provided other support and office services as needed.

The *project coordinator:*

- managed member liaison and members' website correspondence;
- managed the "members-only" Discussion Forum on the Assembly website and assisted with website management;
- supported facilitators and note takers;
- coordinated the recruitment process (staff);
- served as recording secretary for administrative meetings; and
- assisted with the Assembly's projects and activities.

The *chief operations officer*, confirmed by the Special Committee in early July 2003:

- planned and monitored each phase and element of the Assembly's work, including overall project logistics and services to Assembly members;
- managed the Assembly's budget;
- supervised and coordinated office staff;
- liaised with Elections BC;
- served as the recording secretary for the Assembly; and
- collaborated with directors, staff and the chair.

The *chief research officer*, confirmed by the Special Committee in late July 2003:

- planned and implemented the Learning Phase of the Assembly's work;
- led the Assembly members through their detailed discussions and research during the Deliberation Phase;
- established and chaired a Research Program Working Group that provided independent advice and counsel on programming;
- provided liaison with other electoral reform commissions and activities in Canada;
- recruited and supervised facilitators for Assembly discussion groups;
- attracted international experts to contribute to the Assembly's work;
- monitored the work of the Assembly through a systematic survey program;
- took the lead in preparing drafts of the Assembly's reports; and
- worked collaboratively with the chair and other staff in the Deliberation Phase.

The *associate research officer*, appointed in August 2003:

- prepared, developed and presented learning materials;
- provided technical advice on electoral systems;
- prepared background materials and a glossary for members;
- managed the submissions process and provided summaries of the submissions for members; and
- helped facilitators manage discussion groups in the Learning and Deliberation Phases.

The director of communications and associate director of communications were confirmed by the Special Committee in September 2003. The *director*:

- maintained a productive culture within the Assembly;
- facilitated communications with the Special Committee and the public, and assisted members with awareness-building activities in their communities;
- fostered media awareness, interest and coverage through frequent releases and timely responses;
- developed partnerships to facilitate video production and television broadcasts;
- managed a communications budget;
- ensured Assembly members remained engaged in the process;
- promoted public participation at public hearings;
- retained part-time communications support staff during the Public Hearings phase; and
- developed information materials for the public.

The *associate director*:

- developed, managed and edited (on a daily basis) the Assembly's websites;
- assisted in public and media information programs to keep the public informed on the activities of the Assembly; and

- provided support and assistance for media training for staff and members.

The Assembly's full time staff also included a database manager and two administrative assistants.

The *database manager*:
- developed and maintained various databases;
- maintained the staff's computer network;
- resolved computer related problems; and
- managed daily, weekly and monthly backups and other related duties.

The *administrative assistant* managed invoices and expenses, statement reconciliation, office supplies and equipment inventory. The position also provided other office services as needed.

A second *administrative assistant* was responsible for greeting visitors, managing the switchboard, receiving and recording faxes, opening and sorting the mail, assisting the chief and associate research officers, and providing other office services, as needed.

All members of the staff assisted with planning, organizing, facilitating and managing the selection meetings and public hearings. All senior staff contributed to preparing draft content for the Assembly's various reports.

An editor responsible for planning and managing the production of the Assembly's reports was added to the full-time staff for the last three months of the project.

Part-time research staff: facilitators and note takers

The model for learning and deliberation used by the Assembly was one of lecture-style presentations delivered in plenary sessions followed by discussions in 12 breakout groups of 10 to 15 people. Adopting this model meant hiring 13 facilitators (one for each group and one "floater") to provide information to supplement the lecture material, answer members' questions, and to manage the discussion sessions. Using facilitators relieved Assembly members of having to manage their own discussion groups.

Graduate students from the political science departments of the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University were recruited as facilitators. Their responsibilities were three-fold:
- to ensure all members were fully involved in the discussions groups;
- to record discussions and summarize group conclusions to aid in reporting back to the plenary sessions; and
- to provide information on the learning content.

Given these responsibilities, particular attention was paid to the candidates' knowledge of electoral systems and their ability to provide objective analysis of the merits and limitations of the different systems. A training session was held in advance of the Learning Phase to help the facilitators with their role and responsibilities. The session covered basic skills in facilitating and managing group discussions.

Three facilitators also acted as recorders throughout the Public Hearings Phase, summarizing the presentations and recording comments from presenters, panel members and the audience for posting to the Assembly's website and distributing to Assembly members. Some of this information was also used for press releases and reports by the Assembly.

Note takers recruited from among knowledgeable graduate students at the province's universities were added to the discussion groups for the Deliberation Phase. The note takers were responsible for capturing the key themes of the discussion and preparing a report for staff.

External support

The Assembly made use of external experts and consultants throughout the various phases of the process. *Appendix: External Support* provides a complete list of these people.

Infrastructure

Meeting spaces, accommodation and offices

During the Selection Phase, the Assembly made use of college support services in communities outside the Lower Mainland where these were available. These services included support staff, and in some instances college facilities. The institutions that provided services included: Camosun College, Capilano College, Cariboo University College, College of New Caledonia, College of the Rockies, Kwantlen University College, Malaspina University College, North Island Community College, Northern Lights College, North West Community College, and Selkirk College. In communities where such facilities were not available, meetings were held in local hotels and motels.

The Learning and Deliberation Phases required a facility that could accommodate both large plenary sessions and small group discussions for a total of 12 weekends. Simon Fraser University's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver provided an exceptional venue.

The focus of the Centre for Dialogue is the Asia Pacific Hall, which is large enough to accommodate the 161 members of the Assembly. The hall's seating arrangement is circular and tiered so that every member could see every other member. Each of the "workstations" included a microphone, volume controls for headphones, and electronic voting buttons. Several of the stations included computer access for presentations. These could be projected onto two large screens positioned so that all members could comfortably see the screens while addressing their colleagues.

The Centre for Dialogue also provided eight well-equipped smaller rooms for discussion groups of 10 to 20+ members. Additional discussion facilities were available in reception areas and the adjacent major hotel. In addition, the Centre provided a large room for meals (catered by the hotel), receptions and socializing.

The hotel accommodated members (and some staff) for Friday and Saturday nights during the intensive Learning and Deliberation Phases. Staying together helped create a sense of "weekend retreats" and played a significant role in bonding the members and focusing them on their task.

Conveniently, the Assembly's offices were located directly across the street from the Centre for Dialogue. This made last-minute support from the base of operations possible and meant that news from the Assembly was easily and quickly distributed.

Special needs

The Assembly gave care and attention to the special needs of both members and the public. People invited to selection meetings were reimbursed for childcare expenses consistent with government policy, as were members during the sessions. In some cases, new mothers received additional support. For example, the Assembly provided transportation and accommodation support for spouses to take care of a newborn during working sessions. Since the hotel adjacent to the Centre for Dialogue was part of the meeting facility, mothers could easily accommodate a child's feeding needs.

In addition, one member who was visually impaired received materials in a larger typeface and usually well in advance of the weekend sessions. As well, interveners were provided during a public hearing for one presenter who was blind and deaf.

All facilities used by the Assembly were wheelchair accessible.

IT structure

Local area network (LAN)

The Assembly's LAN was set up by the Ministry of the Attorney General through the Common IT Services department (CITS).

Network
Domain model, Windows 2000 server and 12 workstations.

Email and web services were provided externally. Domain hosting and email service were provided by www.harbour.com (Simon Fraser University's external services). The Mailing List (list serve) was created and managed by Assembly staff and hosted by www.sfu.ca.

Shared Network Drive
The network drive was portioned into a shared drive (S:) and a personal workspace drive (W:). Each staff member had unlimited access to S: to post or retrieve information integral to the Assembly.

Backup
Three levels of tape back-up—daily, weekly and monthly—were used for the network drive throughout the life of the Assembly. Weekly and monthly back-ups were stored off-site.

Help Desk
Technical network service was provided by Microserve through a local technician or via remote assistance technology, after a work order was placed with the help desk at the Information Technology Services department (ITS).

Databases

Assembly staff established a number of dedicated databases in both Microsoft Access and Excel, including:

CA Member Selection Databases

- an initial database of 15,800 names and addresses received from Elections BC; and
- a second database of 10,700 names and addresses (shadow files—see *Selection Phase*) received from Elections BC.

These databases were used to track:

- responses to invitation letters;
- eligibility and interest in the selection process;
- meeting venues, dates and times;
- travel and accommodation information for people attending selection meetings; and
- staff facilitating the selection meetings.

CA Members Database

- Personal and contact information for Assembly members.

Public Hearings Database
Presenters' information, including:

- topics and summaries of presentations;
- hearing venues, dates and times;
- issues raised during hearings; and
- evaluations by the public.

Written Submissions Database

- contact information; and
- copies of submissions.

Logistics Databases

Travel and accommodation information for Assembly members and staff attending:

- Learning Phase meetings;
- Public Hearings Phase meetings;
- the Prince George meeting; and
- Deliberations Phase meetings.

Communication Databases

- newsletter distribution list (public) – both email and mail addresses;
- members' speaking engagements (partial listing);
- members' media engagements (partial listing);
- staff speaking engagements (partial listing);
- staff media eng agements (partial listing); and
- log of media coverage.

Report Distribution Databases

- Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia;
- Final Report; and
- Technical Report.

Financial Database

- record of expenditures. (The Ministry of the Attorney General provided monthly Financial Management Record (FMR) reports.)

Document Registry

- incoming mail; and
- outgoing mail.

WWW.CITIZENSASSEMBLY.BC.CA.

The Assembly began its Internet life in the spring of 2003 with a simple "brochure" website. This was rebuilt and expanded in August 2003. A second, pass-word protected site for Assembly members and staff (www.myassembly.ca) was added. This site was updated in October 2003 to include a members-only Discussion Forum.

Both the public and members-only sites were built by an external consultant using a database-and-XML model, with a WYSIWYG content management tool that allowed for daily updates and additions by Assembly staff. The rebuilt site was launched in November 2003, and thereafter updated on an ongoing basis (*Appendix: Website Design* provides a schematic of the site).

The material accessible through the site included Assembly news and events and an ever-growing library of public documents, including:

- all educational materials;
- full audio and video of Assembly members' Learning and Deliberation Phase sessions;
- presentations in PowerPoint and other formats;
- official Assembly reports;
- newsletters;
- news items; and
- links to relevant electoral websites and studies from around the world.

The public website also invited and accepted online registration for 50 public hearings held throughout the province in May and June 2004, and posted documents, summaries of the presentations and material derived from those hearings. In addition, the site received and posted 1,603 written submissions from the public (including submissions sent via an online entry form).

One hundred and forty-four members signed up to use the members-only website—not all 161 members had Internet access. This website carried news of particular interest to members, such as updates on the Assembly's internal procedures and processes, background documents for meetings, information on travel, hotel and expense arrangements, expense forms, and information on members featured in media stories or speaking to community groups. The password-protected Discussion Forum let members chat with each other about electoral systems and the Assembly's progress. A total of 126 members and staff joined the forum, posting a total of 3,035 items.

Daily posting and update work, including monitoring the Discussion Forum, was done by Assembly staff (usually seven-days-a-week), primarily the two members of the communications department and the project coordinator. All of the submissions were processed and posted online by the associate director of research.

The website consultant remained on call for advanced technical assistance. This included constructing a process for handling and presenting the submissions in the website's database, and writing special scripts to mine the database for such things as the e-mail addresses of people who had sent submissions.

The following data is from November 23, 2003 through November 30, 2004.

- unique visitors = 47,507
  - daily average = 309
- pages visited = 1.4 million
  - daily average = 3,726
- biggest single day = 25 November 2004 (20,987 pages viewed)
- visitors from 148 countries
  - Canada #1, followed by the US, the UK, France, Taiwan, Slovakia, Korea, Germany, New Zealand and Australia.
- downloads of audio and video files = 8,825
- downloads of PowerPoint presentations = 9,667

Selection Phase (August to December 2003)

Introduction

The *Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair* called for an assembly of 158 people plus a chair, who would also serve as administrator (see *Appendix: Terms of Reference*). According to the Terms, the 158 people were "to be broadly representative of the adult population of British Columbia, particularly respecting age, gender and geographical distribution."

- (a) *with the approval and under the supervision of the chief electoral officer, a stratified sample of names must be drawn at random from the provincial voters' list according to the following criteria:*
    - (i) *an equal number of names must be drawn for each of the 79 provincial electoral districts;*
    - (ii) *an equal number of men's and women's names must be drawn;*
    - (iii) *the names drawn must reflect the age distribution of the provincial population aged 18 and over;*
- (b) *those persons whose names are drawn and who are not ineligible for participation must be invited to indicate whether they are interested in becoming a member of the Citizens' Assembly;*
- (c) *interested persons must be invited to attend local selection meetings;*
- (d) *local selection meetings must provide further information to prospective members and random selection of names from among those still interested must be held;*
- (e) *the random selection must choose 2 members of the Citizens' Assembly for each electoral district for a total of 158 members plus the chair;*
- (f) *the local selection meetings must be facilitated by a person or persons designated by the chair.*[2]

Drawing the names

The registration campaign

The first step in the selection process was taken by Elections BC,[3] which undertook a one-month campaign to update the provincial Voters List and to introduce the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform to British Columbians. The campaign consisted of a householder mail-out (see *Appendix: Householder Mail-out*) and media advertising.

The Assembly office, government agent offices, Elections British Columbia, and libraries in the Lower Mainland served as depositories for registration forms. Owing to the need to complete the registration within one month, Elections BC, at the urging of Assembly staff, made it possible to download a registration form and to fax a signed copy to complete the registration process.

As a result of this campaign, 75,000 British Columbians contacted Elections BC to register or update their addresses or other information.

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[2] *Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair*, Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

[3] A copy of the agreement between the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform and Elections BC can be found in *Appendix: Elections BC.*

15,800 names

Elections BC provided the Assembly with 200 names—100 females and 100 males—randomly selected from the Voters List, for each of the province's 79 electoral districts, a total of 15,800 names. The sample was stratified in five age cohorts (18-24, 25-39, 40-55, 56-70 and 71+) to reflect the percentage of people in each cohort by gender, for each electoral district, based on the 2001 Census (Tables 1 and 2).

TABLE 1: FEMALE COHORT BY ELECTORAL DISTRICT (p. 41)
TABLE 2: MALE COHORT BY ELECTORAL DISTRICT (p. 45)

Elections BC gave each name within a gendered cohort a sequence number that corresponded to its position on the random list. This meant that the name of the first person randomly selected from the Voters List for each electoral district within each gendered age cohort had a sequence number of one, the second had a sequence number of two, the third three, etc. Elections BC provided the lists of names and contact addresses to Assembly staff on a password-protected CD-ROM.

Owing to rounding errors, the totals for many groups of 100 names were either 99 or 101. To correct for this error, a name had to be added to or deleted from these groups to bring each gender-based list to 100 names. By agreement with Elections BC, for every group where the total was greater than 100, one name was subtracted from the cohort with the largest number of names, and for every group where the total was less than 100, one name was added to the cohort with the smallest number of names.

The "initial" letters[4]

The list from Elections BC provided the names and addresses for the first mail-out. The initial letters—introducing the Assembly and providing a brief outline of its agenda—were mailed through an external contractor on a weekly basis over a period of seven weeks. This schedule was designed to coincide with the schedule for selection meetings. The letters invited recipients to register their interest in attending a selection meeting to be given by Assembly staff in various communities in the province. The recipients were given from two to three weeks to respond.

The responses from the initial letters were logged by electoral district, by gender and by age cohort. The names with the lowest sequence number were the first to be placed on the invitation list: the aim was to invite 10 women and 10 men to each of the local selection meetings.

Table 3 shows that, with some exceptions, responses were similar to the age cohort distribution for the province. The exceptions (indicated by the bolded rows) include:

- responses from people 71+ years of age, which were markedly less than the provincial data for this age group, particularly among females; and
- responses from females and males in the 56-70 year cohort, which were higher than might have been expected given provincial population figures.

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[4] Examples of correspondence for the selection process have been included in *Appendix: Selection Phase Communications.*

TABLE 3:
Responses to Initial Letter (%)

AGE COHORT	Percentage responses to initial letter by age cohort			Percentage BC population distribution by age cohorts		
	Total sample	Females	Males	Total BC	Female BC	Male BC
18-24	11	10	12	11	10	12
25-39	23	24	23	26	25	27
40-55	35	38	34	32	31	33
56-70	**23**	**21**	**24**	**17**	**16**	**18**
71+	**7**	**7**	**8**	**14**	**18**	**10**

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

A second "initial" mailing

Due to a small number of replies to the initial mailing, Elections BC was asked to produce a second set of 200 randomly-selected names — referred to as shadow files— for specific electoral districts. These files were requested following closure for the receipt of responses from a specific district. The files were sent to Assembly staff as password-protected email attachments. Only people in the gender-based age cohorts where there was a shortage of responses were included in the second mailing which was handled by Assembly staff.

A third mailing was required for one electoral district where none of the males invited to the selection meeting attended. Rather than revisiting the first and second sets of random lists, Elections BC generated a second set of shadow files. The response from this third mail-out produced a good roster of males to choose from. Table 4 summarizes the mailing data.

In all, Elections BC produced a total of 26,500 randomly-selected names. Assembly staff mailed letters to 23,034 individuals, which resulted in 1,715 responses with a range of 10 to 34 responses across all electoral districts. The range was 4 to 21 for females, and 5 to 19 for males. Table 5 (see next page) provides a roll-up of districts by gender and age cohort.

TABLE 4:
Summary of Initial Letters Mailed

MAILING	Age Cohorts 18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	Totals
1st Mailing						
Female	849	2023	2432	1263	1332	7899
Male	962	2145	2594	1414	786	79014
2nd Mailing						
Female	392	849	1076	568	633	3518
Male	434	1100	1114	600	328	3576
3rd Mailing Vancouver-Kingsway						
Male	28	31	29	30	22	140
Total Letters Mailed	2650	6198	7357	3925	3130	23034

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

Tables 6 and 7 show the number of additional "initial" letters mailed by electoral district. Tables 8 and 9 show responses to the initial letter by electoral district and gender.

TABLE 6: Second mailing of initial letter - male (p. 49)
TABLE 7: Second mailing of initial letter - female (p. 51)
TABLE 8: Responses to initial letter - male (p. 53)
TABLE 9: Responses to initial letter - female (p. 56)

TABLE 5:
Number of Responses to Initial Letter

RESPONDENTS	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	TOTALS
Females	82	190	298	163	54	787
Males	109	210	313	224	72	928
Totals	191	400	611	387	126	1715

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

The invitation letters

Invitations to attend a selection meeting were mailed to the 10 female and 10 male respondents per electoral district with the lowest sequence numbers in their respective age cohorts. The invitations were sent the day following closure for receipt of the responses to the initial letters. In some cases fewer than 10 letters per gender were sent owing to low response rates in some districts.

As was the case when Elections BC developed the randomized lists, a rounding rule had to be adopted to provide the Assembly with the correct number of people per age cohort for each group of 10 people. Since the base was now 10, these adjustments increased or decreased the proportion for a cohort by 10%. Tables 10 and 11 give stratification numbers for a population of 10 females and 10 males by electoral district.

TABLE 10: Stratification for a population of 10 - female (p. 59)
TABLE 11: Stratification for a population of 10 - male (p. 62)

In some districts, more responses were received from females than from males, while the opposite might occur in a neighbouring district. Similarly, the number of people who responded from any given age cohort did not necessarily match the age cohort distribution of the population in individual districts, although the overall pattern did reflect the province as a whole (Table 3).

Responses from the more populous age cohorts—25-39, 40-55 and 56-70—were not evenly distributed within electoral districts. In some districts, half the responses came from one age group. As well, there did not appear to be any consistency between genders within any one age cohort: in other districts, the female response for the 25-39 age cohorts for mailings was greater than it was for males in the same district (Tables 8 and 9).

These differences did not follow any obvious urban-rural dichotomy: the imbalances between gender and age cohorts were just as great in Vancouver as they were in northern parts of the province. In fact, shadow files also were obtained for most of the urban electoral districts.

In districts where the response within any age cohort was below the quota established for that cohort, people from an adjacent age cohort were invited to the selection meeting. For example, an additional 18-24 year-old would be invited if there was a shortage in the 25-39 cohort; if a person in a neighbouring younger age cohort was not available, an individual from the next older age cohort was selected. Because younger age cohorts are typically under-represented in public consultation processes, where possible, replacements were always chosen from these groups.

The letter inviting respondents to attend a selection meeting provided an overview of the planned activities for the Assembly, and information on eligibility criteria and media relationships (see *Appendix: Selection Meeting Invitation Letter*). Recipients were asked to confirm their continuing interest in participating in the process and their willingness to attend the selection meeting for their district. In instances where people declined the invitation to attend a meeting, the person on the respondents' list with the next higher sequence number was invited to attend.

By adopting this approach, Assembly staff were able to invite close to 10 females and 10 males to each selection meeting. However, there were exceptions and in some instances, despite repeated mailings and invitations to all possible responders, as few as two people from one gender attended a selection meeting. Regardless of the meeting attendance, the selection process carried on as long as there was one individual for each gender for each district.

Table 12 describes the distribution of invitation letters by gender and age cohort. Response by electoral district is included in Tables 8 and 9.

TABLE 12:
Invitations to Selection Meetings

INVITEES	Age cohorts					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	Totals
Females	75	177	248	140	49	689
Males	88	172	262	176	54	752
TOTALS	163	349	510	316	103	1441

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

Inviting respondents to attend a selection meeting often continued until the afternoon of the meeting day; however, even with these efforts, only one meeting resulted in full attendance (i.e., 20 people, 10 of each gender). The average attendance per district was about 12 invitees.

In total, 1,441 people were invited to attend a selection meeting for their electoral district. Of this number, 1,105 people confirmed their intention to attend and 964 people actually attended (Tables 13 and 14).

TABLE 13:
Acceptance of Invitation to Selection Meeting

ACCEPTANCE	Age cohorts					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	Totals
Females	48	149	188	115	33	533
Males	63	142	193	132	42	572
TOTALS	111	291	381	247	75	1105

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

TABLE 14:
Attendance at Selection Meeting

ATTENDEES	Age cohorts					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	Totals
Females	38	127	170	104	31	470
Males	53	120	169	117	35	494
TOTALS	91	247	339	221	66	964

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

Commentary on "Drawing the Names"

Response rates

Several of the electoral districts covered in the earliest mailings had low response rates and it was believed that this reflected their highly dispersed rural populations. This led staff to assume that districts with a dominant population center (>50,000 people) would produce a sufficient number of positive replies to the invitation to meet the quota for each age cohort. This assumption proved false in most cases.

Although Assembly staff took steps to address the matter of unexpectedly low response rates to the initial letters, a larger initial mailing would clearly have been a superior alternative to last-minute second and third mailings. We estimate that an initial mailing of 250 letters per gender per electoral district would have produced responses from a sufficient number of people in each age cohort. Assuming a similar response rate, this larger initial response pool of 3,200 to 4,000 people would have left approximately twice as many people in the group that responded positively, but did not receive an invitation letter to a selection meeting.

Response time

Another way to manage the process better would be to reduce the allowed response time to the initial letter from 14 to 21 days to 7 to 10 days; most responses to the initial letter arrived within the first few days following the mailing. Providing up to three weeks for responses reduced the time available for addressing areas with inadequate response rates. In some cases this resulted in the second set of initial letters not getting to recipients in time for them to respond.

The decision to send second letters to only those age cohorts where there was an inadequate response rate allowed Assembly staff to handle the mailings internally rather than to use an external contractor with the attendant loss of control over the timing of the mailings.

The selection meetings

A total of 27 selection meetings were held around the province (Table 15 - see next page). A senior Assembly staff member chaired each meeting and was supported by a member of the communications department and up to two Assembly staff (in some instances locally recruited) to manage a registration desk.

The agenda for each meeting included an overview of the Assembly's purpose and planned membership, its mandate and proposed work, expectations of members for the coming year and a description of the final selection process. Following this presentation, each attendee was asked to confirm his or her eligibility and commitment to fulfill the expectations for members. Fifty people (5.2%)—32 females and 18 males—withdrew from the selection process at this point.

The names of people who confirmed their continuing interest and eligibility were placed in individual envelopes. Each envelope was pre-labelled with only the gender of the candidate and the electoral district. The envelopes were then organized by district and gender, randomized, and one male and one female envelope chosen for each district. A total of 158 members were selected in this manner.

TABLE 15:
Regional Selection Meetings by Date

Location	Electoral Districts	Venue	Date
Fort St. John	41 Peace River North 42 Peace River South	Northern Grand Hotel	Oct. 14, 2003
Prince George	47 Prince George - Mount Robson 48 Prince George North 49 Prince George - Omineca	PG Civic Centre	Oct. 15, 2003
Terrace	4 Bulkley Valley - Stikine 34 North Coast 56 Skeena	NWCC College	Oct. 16, 2003
Williams Lake	9 Cariboo -North 10 Cariboo - South	Cariboo Conference Centre	Oct. 16, 2003
Kamloops	22 Kamloops 23 Kamloops - North Thompson 79 Yale - Lillooet	UCC Campus	Oct. 20, 2003
Kelowna	24 Kelowna - Lake Country 25 Kelowna - Mission 40 Okanagan - Westside 43 Penticton - Okanagan Valley	Capri Hotel	Oct. 21, 2003
Salmon Arm	39 Okanagan - Vernon 55 Shuswap	Holiday Inn	Oct. 22, 2003
Saanich	20 Esquimalt - Metchosin 27 Malahat - Juan de Fuca 53 Saanich North and the Islands 54 Saanich	Laurel Point Resort	Oct 23, 2003
Golden	13 Columbia River - Revelstoke	Prestige Inn	Oct. 27, 2003
Cranbrook	19 East Kootenay	Prestige Inn	Oct. 28, 2003
Castlegar	32 Nelson - Creston 76 West Kootenay - Boundary	Sandman	Oct. 29, 2003
Nanaimo	03 Alberni - Qualicum 16 Cowichan - Ladysmith 30 Nanaimo 31 Nanaimo - Parksville	Coast Bastion	Oct. 29, 2003
Campbell River	14 Comox Valley 35 North Island	Ramada Inn	Oct. 30, 2003
Chilliwack	1 Abbotsford - Clayburn 2 Abbotsford - Mt. Lehman 11 Chilliwack - Kent 12 Chilliwack - Sumas	Rhombus Hotel	Nov. 3, 2003
Port Coquitlam	28 Maple Ridge - Mission 29 Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows 44 Port Coquitlam - Burke Mountain 45 Port Moody - Westwood	PoCo Inn	Nov. 4, 2003

Location	Electoral Districts	Venue	Date
New Westminster	15 Coquitlam - Maillardville 17 Delta North 33 New Westminster 62 Surrey - Whalley	Inn at Westminster Quay	Nov. 5, 2003
Burnaby	5 Burnaby - Edmonds 6 Burnaby - North 7 Burnaby - Willingdon 8 Burquitlam	Executive Hotel	Nov. 6, 2003
Victoria	38 Oak Bay - Gordon 74 Victoria - Beacon Hill 75 Victoria - Hillside	Hotel Grand Pacific	Nov. 12, 2003
North Vancouver	36 North Vancouver - Lonsdale 37 North Vancouver - Seymour 77 West Vancouver - Capilano 78 West Vancouver - Garibaldi	Lonsdale Quay Hotel	Nov. 13, 2003
Sechelt	46 Powell River - Sunshine Coast	Capilano College	Nov. 15, 2003
Langley	21 Fort Langley 26 Langley 57 Surrey - Cloverdale 61 Surrey - Tynehead	Hampton Inn	Nov. 17, 2003
Surrey	58 Surrey - Green Timbers 59 Surrey - Newton 60 Surrey - Panorama Ridge 63 Surrey - White Rock	Kwantlen Surrey Campus	Nov. 18, 2003
Richmond	18 Delta South 50 Richmond Centre 51 Richmond East 52 Richmond - Steveston	Ramada Plaza	Nov. 19, 2003
Vancouver East	68 Vancouver - Kensington 69 Vancouver - Kingsway 66 Vancouver - Fraserview 67 Vancouver - Hastings	Marriot Pinnacle	Nov. 20, 2003
Vancouver	72 Vancouver - Point Grey 73 Vancouver - Quilchena 70 Vancouver - Langara	Hyatt Regency	Nov. 24, 2003
Vancouver	64 Vancouver - Burrard 65 Vancouver - Fairview 71 Vancouver - Mount Pleasant	Hyatt Regency	Nov. 25, 2003
Vancouver	69 Vancouver - Kingsway	Citizens' Assembly Office	Dec. 8, 2003
Vancouver	Aboriginal members	Citizens' Assembly Office	Dec. 22, 2003

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

The question of aboriginal representation

A review of members' files following the selection meetings suggested that, despite their participation in a number of the meetings, no aboriginal British Columbians had been drawn for membership in the Assembly. To confirm this, each of the Assembly members was contacted and asked if they had aboriginal status. This process identified one member—a non-aboriginal person—who was a status Indian through marriage, and a second member who had recently discovered Metis ancestry.

The Assembly chair decided that the Assembly needed greater aboriginal representation and asked for and received an amendment to the Order in Council to allow for two additional members. Following the amendment, a letter was sent to everyone who had attended a selection meeting but had not been chosen, asking if they had aboriginal ancestry. Everyone who responded positively was contacted by telephone to determine their status and the degree of involvement they had with the aboriginal community. Names of respondents who were band members, members of Metis associations, or members active in aboriginal-related organizations were sorted into gender-based groups. From these groups, one aboriginal man and one aboriginal woman were selected to join the Assembly. This brought the membership to 160. The addition of the chair, who "does not have a vote in its proceedings except to cast a deciding vote in the event of a tie" brought the final number to 161 (see *Members of the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform*).

The names of all of the people who attended a selection meeting but were not chosen were kept in the event of withdrawals from the Assembly. Withdrawals occurred for a variety of reasons in eight electoral districts and all were replaced prior to the Assembly beginning its work.

Each replacement was selected from the group who had attended the local selection meeting by the same process used to select the original members. The selected person was contacted and asked to confirm his or her eligibility and continuing interest in serving on the Assembly. In two cases, people drawn as replacements declined the opportunity. One member resigned for personal reasons late in the Deliberation Phase.

Commentary

THE EFFECT OF RANDOM SELECTION

The initial letter, mailed to 23,034 randomly-chosen citizens, invited the recipients to decide if they wanted to participate in the Assembly process. Those who responded positively and then attended a selection meeting were again asked to confirm their willingness to commit to the project and accept the responsibilities of membership. The Assembly members were then chosen by lot from this group of attendees.

This process appeared to create a sense of "buy-in" for the Assembly members that contributed significantly to their commitment to the process. Although not a subject of research, the fact that only one member withdrew in the course of 11 intensive months, suggests that this process of recruitment deserves further examination.

Conclusion: the Selection Phase

On completing the selection process, the chair sent a welcome letter to the members of the Citizens' Assembly. Appreciation letters were also mailed to each person who attended a selection meeting, and to those who had indicated an interest but had not been invited to a selection meeting.

Despite variations at the electoral district level, the final membership of the Citizens' Assembly generally reflected the distribution of the provincial population (Table 16).

TABLE 16:
Age Distribution by %,
BC vs. The Assembly

	Age cohorts					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71+	TOTAL
British Columbia	11	26	32	17	14	100
Citizens' Assembly	7	24	35	28	6	100

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

TABLE 1:
Female Cohort by Electoral District

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Abbotsford-Clayburn	2,035	4,215	4,690	2,535	3,985	17,460	12	24	27 (-1)	15	23	100
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	2,170	5,215	4,665	2,920	3,615	18,585	12	28	25	16	19	100
Alberni-Clayoquot	1,635	3,950	6,340	4,030	4,280	20,235	8	20	31	20	21	100
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	1,455	3,255	3,450	1,425	940	10,525	14	31	33 (-1)	14	9	100
Burnaby Edmonds	2,305	5,545	5,445	2,710	2,945	18,950	12	29	29	14	16	100
Burnaby North	2,645	5,120	5,850	3,095	3,575	20,285	13	25	29	15	18	100
Burnaby-Willingdon	1,795	4,555	5,265	3,055	4,610	19,280	9	24	27	16	24	100
Burquitlam	2,155	5,170	6,125	2,890	2,760	19,100	11 (+1)	27	32	15	14	100
Cariboo North	1,575	3,710	4,655	2,065	1,300	13,305	12	28	35 (-1)	16	10	100
Cariboo South	1,245	3,160	4,475	2,570	1,730	13,180	9 (+1)	24	34	19	13	100
Chilliwack-Kent	1,695	4,360	5,075	3,255	3,240	17,625	10	25	29	18	18	100
Chilliwack-Sumas	1,740	4,485	5,145	2,980	3,460	17,810	10	25	29	17	19	100
Columbia River-Revelstoke	1,240	3,170	4,095	2,190	2,005	12,700	10	25	32	17	16	100
Comox Valley	1,905	4,725	7,200	4,345	3,950	22,125	9	21	33 (-1)	20	18	100
Coquitlam-Maillardville	1,980	4,885	6,055	2,970	2,330	18,220	11	27	33	16	13	100
Cowichan Ladysmith	1,890	4,165	6,340	3,975	4,440	20,810	9 (+1)	20	30	19	21	100
Delta North	2,200	4,630	6,340	2,435	1,735	17,340	13	27	37 (-1)	14	10	100
Delta South	1,475	3,840	5,835	3,200	3,660	18,010	8 (+1)	21	32	18	20	100
East Kootenay	1,530	3,600	4,920	2,410	2,095	14,555	11	25	34 (-1)	17	14	100
Esquimalt Metchosin	1,760	5,025	5,920	3,035	3,280	19,020	9 (+1)	26	31	16	17	100
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	2,150	5,475	6,960	3,180	2,625	20,390	11	27	34 (-1)	16	13	100
Kamloops	2,680	5,000	5,940	3,160	3,230	20,010	13	25	30	16	16	100
Kamloops-North Thompson	1,755	4,495	6,445	3,335	2,520	18,550	9	24	35	18	14	100
Kelowna-Lake Country	2,230	5,435	6,500	4,180	4,210	22,555	10	24	29 (-1)	19	19	100

TABLE 1 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Kelowna-Mission	2,280	4,930	6,375	3,985	6,560	24,130	9 (+1)	20	26	17	27	100
Langley	2,425	5,525	6,195	2,980	4,060	21,185	11 (+1)	26	29	14	19	100
Malahat-Juan de Fuca	1,540	5,035	6,635	3,045	2,785	19,040	8	26	35	16	15	100
Maple Ridge-Mission	2,000	5,890	6,740	2,890	2,275	19,795	10	30	34	15	11	100
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	2,100	6,030	6,690	3,010	3,335	21,165	10	28	32	14	16	100
Nanaimo	1,905	4,880	6,470	3,380	3,895	20,530	9	24	32	16	19	100
Nanaimo-Parksville	2,060	4,225	6,915	5,080	5,500	23,780	9	18	29	21	23	100
Nelson-Creston	1,400	3,685	5,675	3,420	3,370	17,550	8 (+1)	21	32	19	19	100
New Westminster	2,125	6,065	6,390	3,160	4,415	22,155	10	27	29	14	20	100
North Coast	1,155	2,880	3,230	1,305	840	9,410	12	31	34	14	9	100
North Island	2,065	5,040	7,120	3,035	2,225	19,485	11	26	37 (-1)	16	11	100
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1,735	5,620	5,655	2,940	3,590	19,540	9	29	29	15	18	100
North Vancouver-Seymour	2,030	4,570	7,130	3,185	2,225	19,140	11	24	37 (-1)	17	12	100
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	2,325	3,195	5,780	3,630	6,465	21,395	11	15	27	17	30	100
Okanagan Vernon	2,080	4,990	6,965	4,530	5,150	23,715	9	21	29	19	22	100
Okanagan Westside	1,300	3,890	5,750	4,135	4,240	19,315	7	20	30	21	22	100
Peace River North	1,615	3,845	3,220	1,245	770	10,695	15	36	30	12	7	100
Peace River South	1,145	2,920	3,285	1,425	1,170	9,945	12	29	33	14	12	100
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	1,780	3,985	6,205	5,210	7,810	24,990	7	16	25	21	31	100
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	2,295	6,340	6,615	2,380	1,705	19,335	12	33	34	12	9	100
Port Moody-Westwood	2,370	6,210	7,750	2,755	1,980	21,065	11	29	37	13	9 (+1	100
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1,145	3,590	5,975	3,795	3,745	18,250	6	20	33 (-1)	21	21	100
Prince George-Mount Robson	1,795	3,820	4,170	2,115	1,575	13,475	13	28	31	16	12	100

TABLE 1 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Prince George North	1,665	4,150	4,595	1,535	700	12,645	13	33	36	12	6	100
Prince George Omineca	1,875	4,185	4,685	1,700	925	13,370	14	31	35	13	7	100
Richmond Centre	2,200	5,165	6,595	3,020	3,875	20,855	11	25	32 (-1)	14	19	100
Richmond East	2,360	5,110	6,480	3,065	2,310	19,325	12	26	34	16	12	100
Richmond Steveston	2,430	3,620	7,065	2,995	3,060	19,170	13	19	37 (-1)	16	16	100
Saanich North and the Islands	1,555	3,575	6,975	4,900	6,100	23,105	7 (+1)	15	30	21	26	100
Saanich South	1,790	4,440	6,645	3,250	3,995	20,120	9	22	33	16	20	100
Shuswap	1,545	3,820	6,145	4,355	4,060	19,925	8	19	31	22	20	100
Skeena	1,260	3,420	3,730	1,500	815	10,725	12	32	35 (-1)	14	8	100
Surrey Cloverdale	1,830	4,335	6,475	3,115	2,385	18,140	10	24	36	17	13	100
Surrey Green Timbers	2,135	5,235	5,035	2,475	2,900	17,780	12 (+1)	29	28	14	16	100
Surrey Newton	2,165	4,865	4,730	2,030	1,725	15,515	14	31	30	13	11 (+1)	100
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	2,225	4,990	5,070	2,320	1,980	16,585	13	30	31	14	12	100
Surrey-Tynehead	2,455	5,785	6,895	2,865	2,110	20,110	12	29	34	14	10 (+1)	100
Surrey-Whalley	2,005	5,180	4,735	1,970	2,200	16,090	12 (+1)	32	29	12	14	100
Surrey-White Rock	1,520	3,480	6,750	4,260	7,970	23,980	6	15	28	18	33	100
Vancouver Burrard	2,200	9,040	5,565	2,860	3,200	22,865	10	40 (-1)	24	13	14	100
Vancouver-Fairview	2,465	9,690	6,425	2,745	3,130	24,455	10	40	26	11	13	100
Vancouver Fraserview	2,135	4,835	5,980	3,140	3,110	19,200	11 (+1)	25	31	16	16	100
Vancouver Hastings	2,355	6,855	5,950	2,980	3,455	21,595	11	32 (-1)	28	14	16	100
Vancouver-Kensington	2,105	5,655	5,840	2,915	3,485	20,000	11	28	29	15	17	100
Vancouver-Kingsway	2,210	5,495	5,185	3,155	3,160	19,205	12	29	27	16	16	100
Vancouver-Langara	2,465	4,385	5,535	2,785	4,235	19,405	13	23	29 (-1)	14	22	100

TABLE 1 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	1,740	5,975	5,285	2,520	3,340	18,860	9	32	28	13	18	100
Vancouver-Point Grey	2,790	8,495	6,190	2,725	3,290	23,490	12	36	26	12	14	100
Vancouver-Quilchena	2,695	4,135	6,875	3,465	4,835	22,005	12	19	31	16	22	100
Victoria-Beacon Hill	2,720	5,730	5,975	3,095	7,220	24,740	11	23	24	13	29	100
Victoria-Hillside	3,020	5,490	5,555	2,680	4,670	21,415	14	26 (-1)	26	13	22	100
West Kootenay-Boundary	1,590	3,800	5,665	3,490	3,765	18,310	9	21	31 (-1)	19	21	100
West Vancouver-Capilano	1,690	2,965	6,075	3,770	5,705	20,205	8	15	30	19	28	100
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	2,290	4,960	5,975	3,030	2,530	18,785	12 (+1)	26	32	16	13	100
Yale Lillooet	1,125	3,050	4,480	3,090	2,360	14,105	8	22	32 (-1)	22	17	100
British Columbia (totals vary due to rounding error)	154,520	376,265	455,795	238,445	260,770	1,485,795	10	25	31	16	18	100

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TABLE 2:
Male Cohort by Electoral District

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Abbotsford-Clayburn	2,000	4,230	4,280	2,375	1,930	14,815	13	29	29	16	13	100
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	2,470	5,090	4,930	2,530	1,940	16,960	15	30	29	15	11	100
Alberni-Clayoquot	1,890	3,760	6,290	4,475	2,565	18,980	10	20	33 (-1)	24	14	100
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	1,410	3,370	3,720	1,820	670	10,990	13	31	34 (-1)	17	6	100
Burnaby Edmonds	2,325	5,565	5,240	2,755	1,400	17,285	13	32	30	16	8 (+1)	100
Burnaby North	2,635	5,465	5,490	3,295	1,665	18,550	14	29	30	18	9	100
Burnaby-Willingdon	2,030	4,570	4,790	2,870	2,000	16,260	12	28	29	18	12 (+1)	100
Burquitlam	2,535	5,320	5,630	2,850	1,240	17,575	14	30	32	16	7 (+1)	100
Cariboo North	1,565	3,370	4,895	2,535	810	13,175	12	26	37	19	6	100
Cariboo South	1,515	2,970	4,515	3,020	1,260	13,280	11	22	34	23	9 (+1)	100
Chilliwack-Kent	1,895	4,010	4,875	3,170	1,905	15,855	12	25	31	20	12	100
Chilliwack-Sumas	1,995	4,255	5,025	2,890	1,635	15,800	13	27	32	18	10	100
Columbia River-Revelstoke	1,440	3,050	4,320	2,295	1,195	12,300	12	25	35 (-1)	19	10	100
Comox Valley	1,940	4,485	6,720	4,515	2,230	19,890	10	23	34 (-1)	23	11	100
Coquitlam-Maillardville	2,150	4,740	5,660	2,985	1,065	16,600	13	29	34	18	6	100
Cowichan Ladysmith	1,800	3,890	6,150	3,680	2,305	17,825	10	22	35 (-1)	21	13	100
Delta North	2,590	4,335	6,085	2,785	900	16,695	16	26	36	17	5	100
Delta South	1,830	3,350	5,565	3,285	1,700	15,730	12	21	35	21	11	100
East Kootenay	1,675	3,515	5,270	2,595	1,060	14,115	12	25	37	18	8	100
Esquimalt Metchosin	2,035	5,040	5,670	2,800	1,660	17,205	12	29	33	16	10	100
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	2,250	5,055	6,710	3,410	1,710	19,135	12	26	35	18	9	100
Kamloops	2,470	4,620	5,575	3,050	1,525	17,240	14	27	32	18	9	100
Kamloops-North Thompson	1,935	4,195	6,370	3,655	1,585	17,740	11	24	36 (-1)	21	9	100
Kelowna-Lake Country	2,390	5,310	6,260	3,940	2,300	20,200	12	26	31	20	11	100

TABLE 2 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Kelowna-Mission	2,365	**4,460**	5,795	**3,495**	3,145	**19,260**	12 (+1)	**23**	30	**18**	16	**100**
Langley	2,430	**5,035**	6,090	**2,960**	2,030	**18,545**	13	**27**	33	**16**	11	**100**
Malahat-Juan de Fuca	1,665	**4,575**	6,435	**3,300**	1,855	**17,830**	9	**26**	36	**19**	10	**100**
Maple Ridge-Mission	2,275	**5,310**	6,860	**3,050**	1,420	**18,915**	12	**28**	36	**16**	8	**100**
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	2,205	**5,380**	6,675	**2,820**	1,605	**18,685**	12	**29**	36 (-1)	**15**	9	**100**
Nanaimo	2,185	**4,590**	6,030	**3,435**	1,995	**18,235**	12	**25**	33	**19**	11	**100**
Nanaimo-Parksville	1,885	**3,800**	6,335	**4,630**	3,390	**20,040**	9	**19**	32	**23**	17	**100**
Nelson-Creston	1,710	**3,355**	5,590	**3,350**	1,995	**16,000**	11	**21**	35	**21**	12	**100**
New Westminster	2,115	**6,365**	6,575	**2,950**	1,785	**19,790**	11	**32**	33	**15**	9	**100**
North Coast	1,210	**3,070**	3,480	**1,615**	485	**9,860**	12	**31**	35	**16**	5 (+1)	**100**
North Island	2,315	**4,970**	7,415	**3,545**	1,210	**19,455**	12	**26**	38	**18**	6	**100**
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1,735	**5,700**	5,275	**2,770**	1,285	**16,765**	10	**34**	31	**17**	8	**100**
North Vancouver-Seymour	2,145	**4,215**	6,615	**3,195**	1,275	**17,445**	12	**24**	38	**18**	7 (+1)	**100**
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	2,305	**2,710**	5,165	**3,260**	2,855	**16,295**	14	**17**	32 (-1)	**20**	18	**100**
Okanagan Vernon	2,285	**4,380**	6,365	**4,460**	2,545	**20,035**	11	**22**	32	**22**	13	**100**
Okanagan Westside	1,555	**3,270**	5,620	**4,035**	2,595	**17,075**	9	**19**	33	**24**	15	**100**
Peace River North	1,905	**4,110**	3,625	**1,485**	395	**11,520**	17	**36**	31	**13**	3	**100**
Peace River South	1,280	**2,810**	3,355	**1,655**	660	**9,760**	13	**29**	34	**17**	7	**100**
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	1,580	**3,685**	5,660	**4,910**	4,235	**20,070**	8 (+1)	**18**	28	**24**	21	**100**
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	2,300	**5,660**	6,655	**2,395**	975	**17,985**	13	**31**	37	**13**	5 (+1)	**100**
Port Moody-Westwood	2,460	**5,580**	7,205	**2,630**	1,000	**18,875**	13	**30**	38	**14**	5	**100**
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1,355	**3,255**	5,745	**3,910**	2,200	**16,465**	8	**20**	35	**24**	13	**100**
Prince George-Mount Robson	1,700	**3,705**	4,275	**2,510**	825	**13,015**	13	**28**	33	**19**	6 (+1)	**100**

TABLE 2 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Prince George North	1,745	4,045	4,760	1,880	495	12,925	14	31	37 (-1)	15	4	100
Prince George Omineca	1,835	4,305	4,965	1,990	550	13,645	13	32	36	15	4	100
Richmond Centre	2,155	4,705	5,595	2,760	1,760	16,975	13	28	33	16	10	100
Richmond East	2,690	4,945	6,105	3,155	1,250	18,145	15	27	34	17	7	100
Richmond Steveston	2,640	3,370	6,305	3,015	1,385	16,715	16	20	38	18	8	100
Saanich North and the Islands	1,665	3,155	6,335	4,515	3,485	19,155	9	16	33	24	18	100
Saanich South	2,100	4,005	5,890	3,175	2,205	17,375	12	23	34	18	13	100
Shuswap	1,700	3,490	5,685	4,380	2,575	17,830	10	20	32 (-1)	25	14	100
Skeena	1,430	3,155	4,075	1,850	585	11,095	13	28	37	17	5	100
Surrey Cloverdale	2,170	4,195	5,875	3,175	1,675	17,090	13	25	34 (-1)	19	10	100
Surrey Green Timbers	1,990	5,195	5,240	2,385	1,175	15,985	12	32	33	15	7 (+1)	100
Surrey Newton	2,005	5,075	4,705	2,000	850	14,635	14	35 (-1)	32	14	6	100
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	2,120	4,990	5,120	2,315	1,025	15,570	14	32	33 (-1)	15	7	100
Surrey-Tynehead	2,965	4,910	6,885	3,035	1,200	18,995	16	26	36	16	6	100
Surrey-Whalley	1,870	5,415	5,170	2,305	1,010	15,770	12	34	33	15	6	100
Surrey-White Rock	1,620	3,405	5,600	3,680	3,705	18,010	9	19	31	20	21	100
Vancouver Burrard	2,115	12,310	7,575	3,645	1,730	27,375	8	45	28	13	6	100
Vancouver-Fairview	1,820	8,730	5,350	2,145	1,240	19,285	9	45	28	11	6 (+1)	100
Vancouver Fraserview	2,550	4,410	5,035	2,760	1,575	16,330	16	27	31 (-1)	17	10	100
Vancouver Hastings	2,115	6,675	5,930	3,080	1,665	19,465	11	34	30	16	9	100
Vancouver-Kensington	2,265	5,685	5,310	2,630	1,605	17,495	13	32	30	15	9 (+1)	100
Vancouver-Kingsway	2,490	5,345	5,070	2,605	1,705	17,215	14	31	29	15	10 (+1)	100
Vancouver-Langara	2,425	4,570	4,960	2,655	1,990	16,600	15	28	30 (-1)	16	12	100

TABLE 2 (continued)

REGION/ ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS						STRATIFICATION NUMBER (BASED ON 100) WITH ADJUSTMENT VALUES					
	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL	18-24 years	25-39 years	40-55 years	56-70 years	70+ years	TOTAL
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	1,875	7,355	7,220	3,320	1,830	21,600	9	34	33	15	8 (+1)	100
Vancouver-Point Grey	2,240	8,250	5,645	2,405	1,355	19,895	11	41	28	12	7 (+1)	100
Vancouver-Quilchena	2,825	3,715	5,560	3,390	2,020	17,510	16	21	32	19	12	100
Victoria-Beacon Hill	1,970	5,600	4,950	2,750	2,505	17,775	11	32	28	15	14	100
Victoria-Hillside	2,525	5,970	5,010	2,450	1,875	17,830	14	33	28	14	11	100
West Kootenay-Boundary	1,795	3,445	5,890	3,445	1,940	16,515	11	21	36 (-1)	21	12	100
West Vancouver-Capilano	1,895	2,745	5,320	3,475	2,335	15,770	12	17	34	22	15	100
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	2,325	5,215	6,415	3,390	1,625	18,970	12	27	34	18	9	100
Yale Lillooet	1,280	2,820	4,615	3,360	1,555	13,630	9	21	34	25	11	100
British Columbia (totals vary due to rounding error)	161,010	364,730	441,025	239,105	133,485	1,339,355	12	27	33	18	10	100

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TABLE 6:
Second Mailing of Initial Letter (Male)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	TOTAL
Abbotsford-Clayburn	13	29	29	16		87
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	15	30	29	15	11	100
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	13	31	33	17	6	100
Burnaby North			30	18	9	57
Burnaby-Edmonds	13	32		16	9	70
Burnaby-Willingdon	12		29	18	13	72
Burquitlam	14	30	32	16	8	100
Cariboo North	12	26	37	19	6	100
Cariboo South	11	22	34	23	10	100
Chilliwack-Kent	12	25	31	20	12	100
Chilliwack-Sumas	13	27	32	18	10	100
Columbia River-Revelstoke	12	25	34	19	10	100
Coquitlam-Maillardville	13	29	34	18	6	100
Cowichan-Ladysmith	10	22	34	21	13	100
Delta North		26			5	31
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	12					12
Kamloops-North Thompson	11	24	35	21	9	100
Kelowna-Lake Country	12	26	31	20	11	100
Kelowna-Mission	13	23	30	18	16	100
Maple Ridge-Mission	12	28			8	48
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	12	29	35	15	9	100
New Westminster	11	32		15		58
North Coast	12	31	35	16	6	100
North Vancouver-Lonsdale		34	31	17	8	90
North Vancouver-Seymour		24	38			62
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	14	17			18	49
Peace River North	17	36	31	13	3	100
Peace River South	13	29	34	17	7	100
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	13		37		6	56
Port Moody-Westwood		30				30

TABLE 6 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	TOTAL
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	8	20	35	24	13	**100**
Saanich South	12	22	35	18	13	**100**
Shuswap	10	20	31	25	14	**100**
Skeena	13	28	37	17	5	**100**
Surrey-Green Timbers	12	32	33	15	8	**100**
Surrey-Newton		34				**34**
Surrey-Whalley		34		15		**49**
Vancouver-Burrard	8					**8**
Vancouver-Hastings	11					**11**
Vancouver-Kingsway		31	29			**60**
Vancouver-Langara		28		16		**44**
Victoria-Beacon Hill	11	32	28		14	**85**
Victoria-Hillside	14	33	28			**75**
West Kootenay-Boundary	11	21	35	21	12	**100**
West Vancouver-Garibaldi		27	34	18	9	**88**
Yale-Lillooet	9	21	34	25	11	**100**
TOTAL	**434**	**1100**	**1114**	**600**	**328**	**3576**

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TABLE 7:
Second Mailing of Initial Letter (Female)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	TOTAL
Abbotsford-Clayburn	12		26	15	23	76
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	12		25	16	19	72
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	14	31	32	14	9	100
Burnaby North		25		15	18	58
Burnaby-Edmonds	12					12
Burnaby-Willingdon			27	16	24	67
Burquitlam	12	27	32	15	14	100
Cariboo North	12	28	34	16	10	100
Cariboo South	10	24	34	19	13	100
Chilliwack-Kent	10	25	29	18	18	100
Chilliwack-Sumas	10	25	29	17	19	100
Columbia River-Revelstoke	10	25	32	17	16	100
Coquitlam-Maillardville	11					11
Cowichan-Ladysmith	10	20	30	19	21	100
Delta North	13		36		10	59
Kelowna-Lake Country	10	24	28	19	19	100
Kelowna-Mission	10	20	26	17	27	100
Langley		26	29			55
Maple Ridge-Mission	10		34	15	11	70
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	10	28	32	14	16	100
Nelson-Creston	9	21	32	19	19	100
New Westminster	10	27		14	20	71
North Coast	12	31	34	14	9	100
North Vancouver-Lonsdale				15	18	33
North Vancouver-Seymour		24	36	17	12	89
Oak Bay-Gordon Head		15	27		30	72
Peace River North	15	36	30	12	7	100
Peace River South	12	29	33	14	12	100
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain		33				33
Port Moody-Westwood	11		37		10	58

TABLE 7 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS 18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	TOTAL
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	6	20	32	21	21	100
Saanich South	9	22	33	16	20	100
Skeena	12	32	34	14	8	100
Surrey-Green Timbers	13	29	28	14	16	100
Surrey-Newton	14	31	30			75
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	13			14		27
Surrey-Whalley		32	29	12	14	87
Surrey-White Rock	6					6
Vancouver-Burrard				13		13
Vancouver-Fraserview	12	25	31	16	16	100
Vancouver-Hastings	11	31	28	14	16	100
Vancouver-Langara	13					13
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	9			13	18	40
Victoria-Beacon Hill				13	29	42
Victoria-Hillside		25	26			51
West Kootenay-Boundary	9	21	30	19	21	100
West Vancouver-Capilano		15				15
West Vancouver-Garibaldi					13	13
Yale-Lillooet	8	22	31	22	17	100
Total	**392**	**849**	**1076**	**568**	**633**	**3518**

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TABLE 8:
Responses to Initial Letter (Male)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER						RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION					
	Age Cohorts					Response Total	Age Cohorts					Response Total
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00		18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	
Abbotsford-Clayburn	6	5	5	2	1	19	1	3	4	2	1	11
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	3		5	1	1	10	1		3		1	5
Alberni-Qualicum	2		4	3	1	10	2		3	3	1	9
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	1	10	2	3		16	1	3	1	1		6
Burnaby North	2	3	4	1	1	11	1	3	3	1	1	9
Burnaby-Edmonds		3	5	5	1	14		2	5	1		8
Burnaby-Willingdon	4	3	5	4	1	17	2	2	3	2		9
Burquitlam	2	5	6	1		14	1	2	4	1		8
Cariboo North	1	4	2	4	1	12	1	2	2	2	1	8
Cariboo South		2	4	4	1	11		2	2	2	1	7
Chilliwack-Kent	2	2	5	7	2	18		2	4	1	1	8
Chilliwack-Sumas	1	3	12	3		19	1	3	1	2		7
Columbia River-Revelstoke	1	2	2	1	1	7		1	2			3
Comox Valley			3	4	1	8			3	3	1	7
Coquitlam-Maillardville	1	4	6	5		16		2	2	2		6
Cowichan-Ladysmith	1	3	4	6	2	16	1	1	4	4		10
Delta North	3	4	4	2	1	14	1	2	3	2	1	9
Delta South	1	3	4	6		14	1	2	3	4		10
East Kootenay		2	3	3		8		1	2	1		4
Esquimalt-Metchosin	2	2	6	4	1	15	1	1	3	2	1	8
Fort Langley-Aldergrove		2	4	3		9		2	4	2		8
Kamloops		3	1	2	1	7		1	1	2		4
Kamloops-North Thompson		2	6	2	1	11		1	4			5
Kelowna-Lake Country	1	5	2	1	2	11	1	4	2	1	2	10
Kelowna-Mission	2	1	3	4	2	12	2	1	3	2	1	9
Langley	1	1	3	3		8	1	1	2	2		6
Malahat-Juan de Fuca		2	3	2	1	8		1	3	2		6
Maple Ridge-Mission	1	2	4	3		10			2	1		3
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	1	2	3	1	1	8	1	1	3	1	1	7
Nanaimo	1	1	3	1	3	9	1	1	1	1	3	7

TABLE 8 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER Age Cohorts						RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION Age Cohorts					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	Response Total	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	Response Total
Nanaimo-Parksville	1		2	4	3	10			2	2	2	6
Nelson-Creston		1	5	3	1	10			4	3	1	8
New Westminster	1	2	8	2	2	15		1	4	1		6
North Coast		5	5	2	1	13		2	2	2	1	7
North Island	1	3	1	1		6		3	1	1		5
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1	4	3	1		9	1	4	1	1		7
North Vancouver-Seymour	2	4	6	2	3	17	1	2	3	2	1	9
Oak Bay-Gordon Head		1	11	3	1	16		1	3	3	1	8
Okanagan-Vernon			1	4		5			1	2		3
Okanagan-Westside	1	3	4	2	1	11	1	2	2	1	1	7
Peace River North		3	9	2	1	15		3	3	1	1	8
Peace River South	2	2	7	2	1	14	2	2	3	2	1	10
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	1		1	2	2	6			1	1	2	4
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	2	3	4	1		10	1	3	2	1		7
Port Moody-Westwood	1	2	5	1	1	10	1	2	2	1	1	7
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1	4	3	7	3	18	1	4	3	2	2	12
Prince George North	3	2	7	3		15	1	2	4	2		9
Prince George-Mount Robson			4	2		6			4	2		6
Prince George-Omineca		2	3	4	1	10		1	1	2		4
Richmond Centre	2	2	3	1		8	1	2	3	1		7
Richmond East	1	2	3	1		7		1	2			3
Richmond-Steveston	4		2	3	1	10	2		1	3		6
Saanich North and the Islands		1	4	1	4	10		1	3	1	2	7
Saanich South	1	1	4	6		12	1	1	4	4		10
Shuswap	2		5	3	3	13	2		4	2	2	10
Skeena		2	4	5	1	12		2	3		1	6
Surrey-Cloverdale	3	5	4	3	2	17	1	3	3	1	1	9
Surrey-Green Timbers	1	1	5	1		8	1	1	5	1		8
Surrey-Newton	1	1	2	2		6		1	2	1		4
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	2	3	1	3	1	10	1	2	1	2	1	7

TABLE 8 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER						RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION					
	Age Cohorts					Response Total	Age Cohorts					Response Total
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00		18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	
Surrey-Tynehead	2	4		5		11		3		2		5
Surrey-Whalley	1	5	5	2	2	15	1	3	4	1	1	10
Surrey-White Rock	2	5	3	2		12	1	4		2		7
Vancouver-Burrard	2	2	2	2		8	2	2	2	2		8
Vancouver-Fairview	3	7	3	2		15	1	5		2		8
Vancouver-Fraserview	2	1	4	2		9	2	1	1	1		5
Vancouver-Hastings		3	2	2		7		2	1	2		5
Vancouver-Kensington	5	2	3	1	1	12	3	2	3			8
Vancouver-Kingsway	5	4	2	4		15	4	3	1	3		11
Vancouver-Langara	1	1	2	1		5	1	1	2			4
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	1	10	2	1		14	1	5	2	1		9
Vancouver-Point Grey	1	6	3	5	1	16		4	2	2	1	9
Vancouver-Quilchena	3	1	8	3	4	19	2	1	3	2		8
Victoria-Beacon Hill	2	5	5	4		16	2	2	2	3		9
Victoria-Hillside		4	3	1	1	9		3	2			5
West Kootenay-Boundary		2	5	5		12		1	3	4		8
West Vancouver-Capilano	3	2	4	5	3	17	2	1	2	2	2	9
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	1	3	5	3		12	1	3	1	2		7
Yale-Lillooet	1	3	3	6		13	1	3	3	3		10
Grand Total	**109**	**210**	**313**	**224**	**72**	**928**	**63**	**142**	**193**	**132**	**42**	**572**

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TABLE 9:
Responses to Initial Letter (Female)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER Age Cohorts 18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	Response Total	RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION Age Cohorts 18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	Response Total
Abbotsford-Clayburn	2	2	5	2	1	**12**	1	1	4	2		**8**
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	3		4	4	1	**12**	2		2	1	1	**6**
Alberni-Qualicum		1	4	2	1	**8**		1	3	1	1	**6**
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	1	3	2			**6**		1	2			**3**
Burnaby North	3		3	2		**8**	2		3	1		**6**
Burnaby-Edmonds	2	3	3	3		**11**	2	3		1		**6**
Burnaby-Willingdon	1	3	3	1		**8**	1	2	2	1		**6**
Burquitlam	1	3	4	2		**10**		1	2			**3**
Cariboo North	1	4	12	3	1	**21**	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Cariboo South		1	8	2	1	**12**		1	5	2	1	**9**
Chilliwack-Kent	1	3	2	4		**10**		2	2	4		**8**
Chilliwack-Sumas		3	5	1	1	**10**		2	3			**5**
Columbia River-Revelstoke		1	5			**6**			4			**4**
Comox Valley		3	4	6	1	**14**		3	4	3	1	**11**
Coquitlam-Maillardville		3	5	3	1	**12**		3	3	2	1	**9**
Cowichan-Ladysmith		3	6	3	2	**14**		3	5	1	2	**11**
Delta North	3	3	6	1		**13**	2	3	3	1		**9**
Delta South		2	2	1		**5**		2	1	1		**4**
East Kootenay	1	1	2	2		**6**		1	2	2		**5**
Esquimalt-Metchosin	1	3	3	2	1	**10**	1	3	2	2	1	**9**
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	1	4	2	1		**8**	1	3	2	1		**7**
Kamloops	2	1	2	1	1	**7**	1	1		1		**3**
Kamloops-North Thompson	2	1	4	2		**9**	1	1	3	2		**7**
Kelowna-Lake Country	1	1	3	3		**8**		1	1	2		**4**
Kelowna-Mission	1	4	1	2	2	**10**	1	2	1	2	1	**7**
Langley	1	2	2	1	2	**8**		2	2	1	1	**6**
Malahat-Juan de Fuca		2	1	2	2	**7**		2	1	2	1	**6**
Maple Ridge-Mission		5	5	4		**14**		3	2			**5**
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows		4	4	4	1	**13**		3	3	2	1	**9**
Nanaimo		1	2	2		**5**		1	2	1		**4**

TABLE 9 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER						RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION					
	Age Cohorts					Response Total	Age Cohorts					Response Total
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00		18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	
Nanaimo-Parksville		1	2	1	1	**5**		1	2	1	1	**5**
Nelson-Creston		2	7	3	2	**14**		2	3	3	1	**9**
New Westminster	2	2	3	4		**11**	2	1	3			**6**
North Coast	2	2	5	1		**10**	2	2	4	1		**9**
North Island			2	3	1	**6**			1	3	1	**5**
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1	3	4	2		**10**	1	1	3	2		**7**
North Vancouver-Seymour	1	1	5	3	1	**11**		1	4	2		**7**
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	1	1	12	3	1	**18**		1	4	2	1	**8**
Okanagan-Vernon		4	1	4	1	**10**		4		3	1	**8**
Okanagan-Westside		2	3	3		**8**		2	2	2		**6**
Peace River North	2	4	3	1		**10**	1	3	2	1		**7**
Peace River South		2	2	1		**5**		2	1			**3**
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	2		4	3		**9**			2	2		**4**
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	2	2	3	2	1	**10**	1	1	3	1	1	**7**
Port Moody-Westwood		3	5	1	1	**10**		3	2	1		**6**
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1	3	4	4	1	**13**	1	2	4	3		**10**
Prince George North	1	4	5	2		**12**	1	3	4	1		**9**
Prince George-Mount Robson	1	3	3	1		**8**	1	2	3	1		**7**
Prince George-Omineca		3	2	1		**6**		3	2	1		**6**
Richmond Centre	1	1	2	3		**7**	1	1		3		**5**
Richmond East	3	1	4	2		**10**	2		2	2		**6**
Richmond-Steveston	1	1	3	1		**6**	1		1	1		**3**
Saanich North and the Islands	1		2	5		**8**	1		1	3		**5**
Saanich South	2	2	8	2	1	**15**		1	4	1	1	**7**
Shuswap	1	2	4	4		**11**	1		3	4		**8**
Skeena	1	3	5	2		**11**		3	3	2		**8**
Surrey-Cloverdale	3	3	4	1		**11**	2	2	4	1		**9**
Surrey-Green Timbers	3	3	6	1	1	**14**		2	3	1	1	**7**
Surrey-Newton	1	1	1	1		**4**	1	1	1	1		**4**
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	3	2	4			**9**	2	2	4			**8**

TABLE 9 (continued)

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	RESPONSES TO INITIAL LETTER						RESPONSES TO SELECTION MEETING INVITATION					
	Age Cohorts					Response Total	Age Cohorts					Response Total
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00		18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	71-00	
Surrey-Tynehead	1	5	7	2		**15**	1	5	4	2		**12**
Surrey-Whalley	1	3	6	3	2	**15**	1	3	3	1	1	**9**
Surrey-White Rock		3	4	2	3	**12**		2	3	2	1	**8**
Vancouver-Burrard	1	3	1	3	2	**10**	1	2		3	2	**8**
Vancouver-Fairview		3	3	2	1	**9**		1	3	2	1	**7**
Vancouver-Fraserview	2	3	3	1		**9**	1	2	2	1		**6**
Vancouver-Hastings	1	7		1		**9**	1	6				**7**
Vancouver-Kensington		2	3		1	**6**		2	2			**4**
Vancouver-Kingsway	1	4	2	1		**8**		2	1	1		**4**
Vancouver-Langara	1	1	6	1	1	**10**	1	1	4		1	**7**
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant		1	3	1		**5**		1	2	1		**4**
Vancouver-Point Grey	2	5	1	3	2	**13**	1	5	1	2	1	**10**
Vancouver-Quilchena		2	4	2	1	**9**		2	3	1		**6**
Victoria-Beacon Hill	1	3	6	2	3	**15**		3	3	2	2	**10**
Victoria-Hillside	2	3	4	1	2	**12**	1	3	3	1	1	**9**
West Kootenay-Boundary	1	5		1		**7**	1	3		1		**5**
West Vancouver-Capilano	1	1	5	2	3	**12**		1	2	2	2	**7**
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	2	2	6	1		**11**	1	2	4	1		**8**
Yale-Lillooet	1	3	2	3	2	**11**	1	3	1	2		**7**
Grand total	**82**	**190**	**298**	**163**	**54**	**787**	**48**	**149**	**188**	**115**	**33**	**533**

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TABLE 10:
Stratification for a Population of 10 (Female)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS 18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1	2	3	2	2	10
Abbotsford-Clayburn	1	2	3	2	2	10
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	1	3	2	2	2	10
Alberni-Clayoquot	1	2	3	2	2	10
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	2	3	3	1	1	10
Burnaby Edmonds	1	3	3	1	2	10
Burnaby North	1	2	3	2	2	10
Burnaby-Willingdon	1	2	3	2	2	10
Burquitlam	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cariboo North	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cariboo South	1	2	3	2	2	10
Chilliwack-Kent	1	2	3	2	2	10
Chilliwack-Sumas	1	2	3	2	2	10
Columbia River-Revelstoke	1	2	3	2	2	10
Comox Valley	1	2	3	2	2	10
Coquitlam-Maillardville	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cowichan Ladysmith	1	2	3	2	2	10
Delta North	1	3	4	1	1	10
Delta South	1	2	3	2	2	10
East Kootenay	1	2	3	2	2	10
Esquimalt Metchosin	1	2	3	2	2	10
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	1	3	3	2	1	10
Kamloops	1	2	3	2	2	10
Kamloops-North Thompson	1	2	3	2	2	10
Kelowna-Lake Country	1	2	3	2	2	10
Kelowna-Mission	1	2	2	2	3	10
Langley	1	3	3	1	2	10
Malahat-Juan de Fuca	1	3	3	2	1	10
Maple Ridge-Mission	1	3	3	2	1	10

TABLE 10 (continued)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	1	3	3	1	2	10
Nanaimo	1	2	3	2	2	10
Nanaimo-Parksville	1	2	3	2	2	10
Nelson-Creston	1	2	3	2	2	10
New Westminster	1	3	3	1	2	10
North Coast	1	3	3	2	1	10
North Island	1	3	3	2	1	10
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1	2	3	2	2	10
North Vancouver-Seymour	1	2	4	2	1	10
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	1	1	3	2	3	10
Okanagan Vernon	1	2	3	2	2	10
Okanagan Westside	1	2	3	2	2	10
Peace River North	2	3	3	1	1	10
Peace River South	1	3	3	2	1	10
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	1	2	2	2	3	10
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	1	3	3	2	1	10
Port Moody-Westwood	1	3	4	1	1	10
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1	2	3	2	2	10
Prince George-Mount Robson	1	3	3	2	1	10
Prince George North	1	3	4	1	1	10
Prince George Omineca	1	3	4	1	1	10
Richmond Centre	1	2	3	2	2	10
Richmond East	1	3	3	2	1	10
Richmond Steveston	1	2	3	2	2	10
Saanich North and the Islands	1	2	3	2	2	10
Saanich South	1	2	3	2	2	10
Shuswap	1	2	3	2	2	10
Skeena	1	3	3	2	1	10
Surrey Cloverdale	1	2	4	2	1	10
Surrey Green Timbers	1	3	3	1	2	10
Surrey Newton	2	3	3	1	1	10

TABLE 10 (continued)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	1	3	3	2	1	10
Surrey-Tynehead	1	3	3	2	1	10
Surrey-Whalley	1	3	3	1	2	10
Surrey-White Rock	1	1	3	2	3	10
Vancouver Burrard	1	4	2	1	2	10
Vancouver-Fairview	1	4	3	1	1	10
Vancouver Fraserview	1	2	3	2	2	10
Vancouver Hastings	1	3	3	1	2	10
Vancouver-Kensington	1	3	3	1	2	10
Vancouver-Kingsway	1	3	2	2	2	10
Vancouver-Langara	1	2	3	2	2	10
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	1	3	3	1	2	10
Vancouver-Point Grey	1	4	3	1	1	10
Vancouver-Quilchena	1	2	3	2	2	10
Victoria-Beacon Hill	1	2	2	2	3	10
Victoria-Hillside	1	3	3	1	2	10
West Kootenay-Boundary	1	2	3	2	2	10
West Vancouver-Capilano	1	1	3	2	3	10
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	1	3	3	2	1	10
Yale Lillooet	1	2	3	2	2	10

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TABLE 11:
Stratification for a Population of 10 (Male)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1	3	3	2	1	10
Abbotsford-Clayburn	1	3	3	2	1	10
Abbotsford-Mount Lehman	1	3	3	2	1	10
Alberni-Clayoquot	1	2	3	2	2	10
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	1	3	3	2	1	10
Burnaby Edmonds	1	3	3	2	1	10
Burnaby North	1	3	3	2	1	10
Burnaby-Willingdon	1	3	3	2	1	10
Burquitlam	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cariboo North	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cariboo South	2	2	3	2	1	10
Chilliwack-Kent	1	3	3	2	1	10
Chilliwack-Sumas	1	3	3	2	1	10
Columbia River-Revelstoke	1	2	4	2	1	10
Comox Valley	1	2	3	2	2	10
Coquitlam-Maillardville	1	3	3	2	1	10
Cowichan Ladysmith	1	2	3	2	2	10
Delta North	2	2	3	2	1	10
Delta South	1	2	4	2	1	10
East Kootenay	1	2	4	2	1	10
Esquimalt Metchosin	1	3	3	2	1	10
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	1	3	3	2	1	10
Kamloops	1	3	3	2	1	10
Kamloops-North Thompson	1	2	4	2	1	10
Kelowna-Lake Country	1	3	3	2	1	10
Kelowna-Mission	1	2	3	2	2	10
Langley	1	3	3	2	1	10
Malahat-Juan de Fuca	1	3	3	2	1	10
Maple Ridge-Mission	1	3	3	2	1	10

TABLE 11 (continued)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Nanaimo	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Nanaimo-Parksville	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Nelson-Creston	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
New Westminster	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
North Coast	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
North Island	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
North Vancouver-Seymour	1	2	4	2	1	**10**
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Okanagan Vernon	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Okanagan Westside	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Peace River North	2	3	3	1	1	**10**
Peace River South	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Penticton-Okanagan Valley	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Port Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	1	3	4	1	1	**10**
Port Moody-Westwood	1	3	4	1	1	**10**
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Prince George-Mount Robson	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Prince George North	1	3	4	1	1	**10**
Prince George Omineca	1	3	4	1	1	**10**
Richmond Centre	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Richmond East	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Richmond Steveston	2	2	3	2	1	**10**
Saanich North and the Islands	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Saanich South	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Shuswap	1	2	3	2	2	**10**
Skeena	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Surrey Cloverdale	2	2	3	2	1	**10**
Surrey Green Timbers	1	3	3	2	1	**10**
Surrey Newton	2	3	3	1	1	**10**

TABLE 11 (continued)

REGION/ELECTORAL DISTRICT	AGE COHORTS					
	18-24	25-39	40-55	56-70	70+	TOTAL
Surrey-Panorama Ridge	1	3	3	2	1	10
Surrey-Tynehead	2	2	3	2	1	10
Surrey-Whalley	1	3	3	2	1	10
Surrey-White Rock	1	2	3	2	2	10
Vancouver Burrard	1	4	3	1	1	10
Vancouver-Fairview	1	4	3	1	1	10
Vancouver Fraserview	2	2	3	2	1	10
Vancouver Hastings	1	3	3	2	1	10
Vancouver-Kensington	1	3	3	2	1	10
Vancouver-Kingsway	1	3	3	2	1	10
Vancouver-Langara	1	3	3	2	1	10
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	1	3	3	2	1	10
Vancouver-Point Grey	1	4	3	1	1	10
Vancouver-Quilchena	2	2	3	2	1	10
Victoria-Beacon Hill	1	3	3	2	1	10
Victoria-Hillside	2	3	3	1	1	10
West Kootenay-Boundary	1	2	4	2	1	10
West Vancouver-Capilano	1	2	3	2	2	10
West Vancouver-Garibaldi	1	3	3	2	1	10
Yale Lillooet	1	2	3	2	2	10

ELECTIONS BC, 2003

Learning Phase (January to April 2004)

Introduction

The members came to the Assembly with a wide range of knowledge and information on the rules and practices of democratic systems. Most members were active in their communities, but few were conversant with or knowledgeable about the details of political institutions, or the issues of electoral reform. There were a few members who were both very interested in and well informed about the electoral process when they were selected, and at least one member had published a book which dealt with the matter. However, on a scale of 0 to 10, members' responses to the question "How informed about electoral systems do you feel?" averaged just 4.3.

The Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform suggested an education phase to help members make an informed, considered decision about which electoral system would best suit the needs of British Columbians. In this phase, members would learn about various systems and how they affect governance and political processes. The challenge staff faced was to provide a learning program that would meet the members' needs in a format and at a pace acceptable to everyone.

Designing and delivering the Learning Phase

The chief and associate research officers, both political scientists from the University of British Columbia, developed the education program. Their initial curriculum plan was reviewed by a Research Program Working Group (see *Appendix: Committees*), a consultative committee made up of academics and other people familiar with the substantive issues facing the Assembly. Many of the Working Group's suggestions on content and sequence were very helpful and were incorporated into the final learning plan. The staff also drew on international experts who contributed outside knowledge and perspectives to the process.

Course curriculum

Table 17 lists the main topics covered during the education sessions.

TABLE 17:
Learning Phase Curriculum

SCHEDULE	TOPICS
Weekend 1	**Introduction to the Citizens' Assembly** Determining Learning Values and Processes Politics in BC- What do we want? Criteria for evaluating electoral systems
Weekend 2	**Elections and Parliamentary Government** Elections, representation and parliament Political parties and party competition BC experience and practice & reform impulses
Weekend 3	**Democratic Electoral Systems** (part 1) Electoral Systems: An Overview of Types Plurality systems Majority systems
Weekend 4	**Democratic Electoral Systems** (part 2) Proportional representation systems Single transferable vote systems Mixed systems
Weekend 5	**Changing electoral systems** Choosing electoral systems The impact of changing an electoral system Lessons for British Columbia
Weekend 6	**Options for Public Discussion** Assessment of our current system A Preliminary Report to the Province Preparing for Public Hearings

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

(Note: copies of the learning materials and other information pertinent to the Citizens' Assembly is available on DVD. Please refer to the contact information on the final page of this report.)

Learning Phase (January to April 2004)

Introduction

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BC Citizens' Assembly 2004

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Since the language of political science and electoral institutions was new to most Assembly members, a comprehensive glossary was developed and circulated as part of the curriculum materials, as well as posted to the Assembly's website (see *Appendix: Glossary*). In addition, a leading text, *Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction*, by David Farrell, was given to each member before the start of the sessions. In Weekend 5, two international experts (David Farrell from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, and Elizabeth McLeay from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand) led sessions that dealt with the experience of implementing new electoral systems in other countries.

Several members undertook research as part of their studies, sharing their reports with other Assembly members. These reports included reviews of other electoral reform studies and systems.

A "learning" weekend

The Learning Phase took place at Simon Fraser University's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver (see *Infrastructure*). The program involved meeting every second weekend for six intensive weekends: formal sessions began on Saturday morning at 9:00 am, ending that day at 5:00 pm, and beginning again on Sunday at 9:00 am and ending at noon. Members began meeting in January and this Phase ended in late March. Accommodation and meals were provided by the hotel adjacent to the Centre for Dialogue.

Several days prior to each session, Assembly staff electronically circulated a draft agenda and relevant learning materials to those members with email access. Subject to sufficient time being available, a hardcopy of the information was mailed to other members. When time was not sufficient for regular post, a printed copy was delivered to these members at the hotel on their arrival on Friday night so that they could review the material before the sessions began.

Printed copies of the learning materials were provided to all members prior to the start of the sessions to ensure everyone had the same documents. The help desk also kept copies of all the materials to replace misplaced documents. Members who were visually impaired had specific copies prepared to accommodate their needs.

PLENARY SESSIONS AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

Each working day of the Assembly was presided over by the chair. The day normally started with routine announcements, a brief period for questions and observations from members, and any formal business the Assembly needed to address. At that point the research staff was called on to begin the program.

Learning sessions opened with a plenary session for all Assembly members. The plenary generally consisted of a lecture (with PowerPoint presentation) that lasted 45 to 50 minutes. Following the presentation, members could raise questions of clarification.

Each presentation ended with a set of questions for discussion by the members. These questions were addressed in 12 discussion groups that varied in number from 10 to 15 members—the size of each group was, in part, decided by the size of the available rooms. The discussion groups typically lasted 45 to 60 minutes.

Members were assigned to discussion groups on a random basis, staying with their group for the weekend. The groups changed each weekend, which helped members get to know one another better while exposing them to a variety of perspectives.

Following the discussion groups, members reconvened in plenary and a spokesperson for each group reported back the results of their discussions to the Assembly. The afternoon session followed the same pattern as the morning session. The sessions were usually separated by 30-45 minute breaks. This allowed members to talk informally with one another and with staff, and provided ample time for movement between the various rooms of the Centre for Dialogue complex.

Facilitators were appointed to help discussion groups and to provide information on the topic under discussion. Prior to each weekend, the facilitators and the Assembly's research staff met to review and discuss the weekend agenda and review the learning materials. In a number of instances, suggestions from the facilitators were used to modify the presentations and discussion group plans.

Following each session, the facilitators and staff met again for a debriefing. These meetings gave the facilitators an opportunity to share experiences on best practices, and to identify process problems and any specific content issues that members found challenging.

All of the plenary learning sessions were open to the public (the discussion groups were for members only). As well, all of the learning materials (including lecture notes and PowerPoint presentations) prepared for the members were available to the public through the Assembly's website, once they had been distributed to the members.

The plenary sessions were video taped by staff from the Centre for Dialogue. The videotapes were broadcast over the provincial legislature's TV service (Hansard), carried by the major cable distributors throughout most of the province. These broadcasts were repeated several times to provide access to the widest possible audience. The plenaries were also webcast; judging by the download activity on the site, the webcasts were widely circulated. The public was allowed to attend the plenary discussions in both the Learning and Deliberation Phases, but only as observers.

Following dinner on Saturday night, Assembly staff offered members optional skills training sessions, such as computer training (specifically designed for members who wanted to use the members-only website) and media training.

Web groups

Assembly staff created a Discussion Forum on the members-only website. This Forum let members establish discussion threads on topics relevant to their work. One hundred and twenty-six members and staff joined the Forum.

Commentary

> In general, the process of moving between plenary and small group discussion sessions worked well. One aspect of the process that was not as successful as expected was the mechanism for reporting back group discussion summaries to the full Assembly. Though groups designated one of their own members for this responsibility, all members were not always confident that their perspective or observations were fully represented in the brief time available to the groups to provide summary reports. This led

to a decision to employ note takers for this activity during the Deliberation Phase. The problem was not finally resolved until formal reporting back was dropped and individual members were free to bring their own observations to the plenary.

Team building

Team building and relationship development were necessary parts of the Learning Phase if Assembly members were to fulfill their mandate successfully.

Team building began with a reception and social evening held on the Friday before the first weekend. Members had an opportunity to explore the Centre for Dialogue, and could meet one another informally. Name tags and Assembly staff helped with introductions and provided a "soft landing" for members who travelled long distances to begin the learning process.

The second important team building activity was the development (on the first day) of a statement outlining a set of shared values that Assembly members could accept as a basis for working together over the coming year. After a brief introduction to the task by the chair, members moved into discussion groups to identify the values that would guide them. Facilitators recorded the values members articulated and these were synthesized and brought back to the next plenary session where, after minor changes, they were adopted by consensus.

In this way, the Assembly committed itself to:
- Respecting people and their opinions;
- Open-mindedness - challenging ideas not people;
- Listening to understand;
- Commitment to the process;
- Focus on the mandate – preparedness;
- Simple, clear, concise communication;
- Inclusivity - all members are equal;
- Positive attitude; and
- Integrity.

To remind members of their shared commitment, large laminated posters listing these propositions were posted in all the discussion group meeting rooms.

In addition to the statement of shared values, the Assembly members approved a series of policies and procedures (see *Appendix: Policies and Procedures*) to guide them in their deliberations and decision-making processes.

Conclusion: the Learning Phase

The Learning Phase appears to have been very successful. At the end of the phase, members reported major changes in their "interest in politics" and the extent to which they felt "informed about politics." When presented with the earlier question, "How informed about electoral systems do you feel?" the average response (on the 0-10 point scale) jumped to 9.11 from the initial position of 4.3.

To document how members had developed their new knowledge, a post-Learning Phase survey asked them to rate on a point scale of 1 to 7—7 being most useful—several distinct activities in terms of each activity's contribution to their learning. Table 18 (see next page) presents the results.

It is interesting to note that the most traditional form of teaching—the large lecture presentation—was seen as the most useful learning activity. This may reflect the fact that much of the material was new to most members and plenary lectures may have been the best way for these members to

TABLE 18:
Rating Learning Activities

ACTIVITY	MEAN RATING
Plenary lectures by staff	6.3
Plenary talks by visitors	5.9
Discussion group sessions	5.8
Personal study	5.5
Informal conversations with other members	5.3
Plenary discussion by whole Assembly	4.7
Informal conversations with staff	4.7
Conversations with family, friends, neighbours, etc.	4.7
Discussion on the web forum	3.9

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absorb quickly a large amount of substantive information. The members' Discussion Forum did not rate highly: it was to come into its own during the Deliberation Phase.

It is also interesting to note that the attendance rate for the Learning Phase was consistently between 95% and 99%. Few, if any, public involvement processes stretching over 12 weeks and involving 160 randomly-selected people can claim that level of commitment.

Planning the Deliberation Phase

A workshop on dialogue and decision-making

Planning the Deliberation Phase began during the latter part of the Learning Phase. Assembly staff convened an all-day workshop that included four Assembly members (one from each of the province's major regions) and the research staff, as well as three consultants expert in dialogue and decision-making processes.

The workshop explored the process and content challenges the Assembly would face as it moved towards a decision. The attendees stated working principles useful to the structure of the process, recommending that the Assembly start from a clear statement of their values. They accepted the premise that "nothing is decided until everything is decided" which would allow all members to stay engaged in a sustained step-by-step decision-making exercise. Following the workshop, the chair presented a preliminary decision-tree to the Assembly.

Highlighting presentations from the Public Hearings Phase

The members also decided that it would be beneficial for the whole Assembly to hear presentations in favour of alternative electoral systems. These presentations would be chosen from among the presentations made in the Public Hearings Phase. A committee (randomly selected from the membership) was appointed to refine the selection criteria (see *Appendix: Critical Path for Decisions*) and issue invitations that would ensure a balanced set of presentations.

The Preliminary Statement

During the last weekend of the Learning Phase, a document entitled *Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia* (see *Appendix: Preliminary Statement*) was drafted by the Assembly research staff, then modified and endorsed by the Assembly. The statement:

- outlined the mandate and work of the Assembly;
- assessed the strengths and weaknesses of British Columbia's current electoral system;
- identified features the Assembly believed should be incorporated in an appropriate electoral system; and

- outlined criteria for making decisions about electoral systems.

Particular attention was given to:

- the extent to which election results reflect votes cast (i.e., proportionality);
- the nature of the connection between voters and their representatives (i.e., local representation);
- the range and nature of candidate choices offered to voters; and
- the effect of the electoral system on governance.

The Preliminary Statement concluded with an invitation to members of the public to participate in the Public Hearings Phase, and to share their views on the values and features that should be included in an electoral system for the province.

Copies of the Preliminary Statement were sent to:

- Members of the Legislative Assembly and their constituency offices;
- municipal and regional district offices;
- First Nations' Councils across the province;
- schools, colleges, and universities across the province;
- libraries across the province;
- citizens who already received the monthly newsletter (see Communications);
- members of the Assembly for circulation;
- mailing lists prepared by the Assembly staff; and
- other relevant associations and organizations.

The Preliminary Statement was translated into French, Chinese and Punjabi. All of these versions were placed on the Assembly's website and copies printed on request.

Public Hearings Phase (May to June 2004)

Introduction

The Assembly's *Terms of Reference* required it to consult with citizens through public hearings and written submissions. The *Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform* suggested 30 hearings be held across the province; however, the plan prepared by Assembly staff, and approved by the members, included 49 hearings. Owing to high demand, a third Vancouver hearing was held, bringing the number of hearings to 50.

Designing the public hearings – presentations

Locating and staffing meetings

British Columbia is a large province; distances between communities are often significant. Consequently, the public hearings were organized so that most citizens wishing to attend a hearing could do so at a location within one to one and a half hours from their home.

Multiple hearings were arranged in large urban centres to ensure all who wished to attend would have an opportunity. When more than one hearing was held in a large centre, the hearings were separated by a two- to three-week period and held on different days of the week. Most hearings took place in the evenings, with some held on Saturday afternoons to accommodate the schedule of citizens with evening commitments. The intent was to ensure access for the widest possible audience.

Four to 16 Citizens' Assembly members from local, neighbouring and distant electoral districts served on a panel for each hearing. The "distant electoral member" was included so that members would gain an understanding of local issues and the concerns of citizens in parts of the province other than their own. Assembly members were asked to indicate which hearing they would like to attend, and when the number of possible panel members exceeded the need, random draws were used to select the members. In all, each member attended one to four hearings in an official capacity throughout the months of May and June. Many Assembly members attended additional meetings as members of the audience.

A PUBLIC HEARINGS MANUAL

A short manual was prepared to help members with their role at the public hearings (see *Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes*). The manual outlined the process for the hearing and the role of members. It also included illustrative questions the members could ask presenters and the audience.

A draft of the manual was reviewed with the Assembly during the last session of the Learning Phase and many of their suggestions were incorporated into the final document.

Promotion

Promotion was an important aspect of the Public Hearings Phase. As in other public consultation processes, advertisements announcing hearing dates were placed in local newspapers a couple of weeks before the date for the hearing. In addition, the Assembly's website provided up-to-date information on the public hearings process.

Each member received 20 Public Hearings posters providing information on hearings in local and surrounding communities, and invited those interested in presenting to the Assembly to pre-register for a hearing. The notices were posted in public places and, in some instances, circulated within the members' own organizations.

Copies of the *Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia* were also given to members for circulation within organizations and for general distribution.

Pre-registering presenters

To help staff plan the hearings, members of the public interested in making a presentation at a public hearing were asked to pre-register with the Assembly. Registration could be done through an interactive online form on the Assembly website, or by faxing or mailing in a request form. An email or letter from the Assembly staff confirmed the registration. This was followed by an email or one-page letter advising the registrant of the location and approximate time of the presentation, certain guidelines for presentations and other information (see *Appendix: Information for Presenters*).

The names of registered presenters, the date, time and location of the hearing to be attended, and the topic of each presentation were placed on the website so that members of the public would know when certain people were presenting. Any reference to a written submission by a presenter was also noted on the site.

Implementing the public hearings

Staff

Support for each public hearing included a host, a moderator, a registrar, a recorder and a member of the communications staff. The host was an assembly member from the local community responsible for welcoming presenters and members of the public, and for introducing the panel and staff. The moderator was a member of the Assembly's senior staff and managed the hearing, introducing presenters, monitoring the time, and moderating questions and answers.

The registrar registered presenters and recorded the names of people who had not registered but who wished to make a presentation.

The recorder, a facilitator from the Learning Phase, was responsible for audio recording the session and making summaries of the presentations. These summaries were later posted to the Assembly website.

The communications staff was responsible for setting up the information table, welcoming and assisting any media in attendance, and preparing and circulating a press release immediately following the hearing.

Audio-visual equipment

Due to the variable quality and availability of audio-visual equipment in some areas of the province, the Assembly purchased and transported its own electronic equipment to all of the public hearings. A self-contained PA system that accommodated wireless microphones made it easy for audience members to ask questions. Digital recorders were used to record the sessions and help the recorders review and correct their notes.

Hearing format

The format for the hearings—formal or informal—varied according to the number of people attending a hearing and the number of registered presenters. Where either number was significant, a formal setting was used (see *Appendix: Formal Hearings*). Panel members sat at a table at the front of the room, the public seating was theatre-style, and the presenter had a lectern/podium.

Each hearing started with introductions from the local Assembly member. The introduction outlined the process to be followed during the evening. A short video presentation was then given. This provided an overview of the Assembly, how it was created and the different phases of its processes, and a brief introduction to the five main families of electoral systems. The video concluded with an invitation to get involved through public hearings, submissions and watching the Assembly's website.

The primary role of the Assembly members on the panel was to listen to the presenters and ask for clarification and further information. The intention was to create an atmosphere where the public—presenters and audience—felt they could speak freely and openly.

After the Assembly members had finished questioning a presenter, audience members were invited to question the presenters. Members of the public were free also to express their opinions on what they considered to be appropriate electoral models for the Assembly to consider.

In some of the smaller communities, few members of the public attended and only one or two people made presentations. In these instances, chairs were rearranged in a circle (see *Appendix: Informal Meetings*) and the hearings became an informal dialogue on the attendees' opinions on different aspects of electoral systems and their thoughts on what would be the best electoral system for British Columbia. The moderator managed the discussion.

An information table was set up at all of the hearings to distribute materials prepared by the Assembly's communications staff. These materials included a number of Fact Sheets, which provided a written overview of the work of the Assembly, and summarized information on electoral and voting systems. The material included (by title):

- Backgrounder on the Citizens' Assembly
- Mandate of the Citizens' Assembly
- Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia (versions in French, Chinese and Punjabi where appropriate)
- Politics in BC: What do we want?
- Assessing electoral systems
- Legislatures, elections, representation and parties
- Electoral experimentation in BC
- Why electoral reform?
- Understanding electoral systems
- Electoral systems
- Majority systems
- Plurality systems
- Proportional representation – list systems
- Proportional representations by single transferable vote
- Mixed electoral systems
- Implications of electoral systems
- Global context
- Most recent newsletter
- Newsletter sign-up sheet
- Schedule of Public Hearings

Posters listing other public hearings in surrounding communities were also available. Some presenters and audience members circulated their presentations and other literature on the information tables.

DEBRIEFING

At the conclusion of each hearing, Assembly members, the moderator and the recorder held a short debriefing meeting. These meetings focused on three questions:

- What worked well about this hearing?
- What did you like least about this hearing and how could it be improved?
- Which, if any, presentations would you

- Which, if any, presentations would you recommend as potential candidates for a plenary presentation in the fall?

The responses to these questions were used to improve subsequent hearings.

The debriefing sessions were also used to identify exemplary presentations. Information on these presentations was forwarded to a Selection Committee for Plenary Presentations. This members' committee was set up to select presentations to be made in the plenary session at the opening of the Deliberation Phase.

Presentations

Each presentation was 10 minutes in length followed by up to 10 minutes for questions and answers; the moderator kept track of the time. Panel members were accorded the first opportunity to ask questions followed by audience members.

In addition to the registered presenters, some people who came to the public hearings asked for an opportunity to make a presentation. These unscheduled presentations followed the registered presentations.

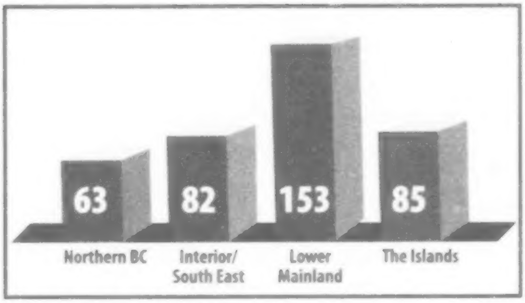
Presenters were told at the start of each hearing that the presentations were being summarized and would be made accessible to Assembly members and the public through the Assembly website. A recorder—one of the graduate students who had facilitated the discussion groups in the Learning Phase—summarized the presentations, grouping the information under the following headings:

- Description of Presentation;
- Key Themes;
- Recommendations; and
- Questions, Answers and Comments from the Panel.

In addition to the recorders' summary, presenters were invited to submit their full presentations as a written submission to be placed on the website. In this way, each presenter could make the complete presentation available to the wider provincial community. Many presenters took advantage of this opportunity.

A full list of presenters with the date and location of the hearings is included in *Appendix: List of Presenters*. Chart 1 shows the distribution of presentations by region. A number of presenters came from outside the local region: one traveled from New York City to make a presentation in Vancouver. Others traveled from other parts of Canada.

CHART 1:
Presentations by Region



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Several presenters attended more than one hearing, hoping to reach more Assembly members with their message. Table 19 shows the number of registered presenters and the frequency of their presentations.

TABLE 19:
Registered Presenters

PRESENTERS	
Single presentation	349
Two presentations	11
Three or more presentations	3
TOTAL PRESENTERS	**363**

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Presenters were asked to speak to the Assembly's mandate; however, many people used the opportunity to address other issues of electoral reform that they believed should be addressed by the Assembly (See *Other Issues Raised by British Columbians*). Table 20 summarizes the issues and topics raised by the presenters. The need to change the electoral system, increased proportionality and more voter choice were all strongly supported in the presentations.

Organizing the presentations under the broad categories listed in Table 20 made it easier for staff to search the presentation material. It also helped in preparing summary documents on the hearings and presentations.

TABLE 20:
Issues Addressed at Public Hearings

CATEGORY	Interior/ South East	Lower Mainland	Northern BC	The Islands	TOTAL
Change - other	2	16	9	8	35
Democratic elections	4	11	1	1	17
Democratic government	8	15	8	11	42
*Electoral system change:	67	118	42	64	291
Citizens' Assembly type process	1	6	2	2	11
List proportional	1	6	3	5	15
Majority system (AV, Run off)	6	9	5	7	27
Mixed - other	3	1	1	3	8
Mixed Proportional (MMP)	46	72	22	41	181
NOTA	2	6	2	2	12
STV	5	8	3	7	23
Electoral system current	2	13	2	5	22
Local representation	18	38	22	15	93
Proportional representation	65	101	37	62	265
Underrepresented groups (women, small parties, First Nations, ethnic)	23	26	16	17	82
Voter choice	60	91	38	56	245

* Figure includes single, multiple systems choice and non-specific choices

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Surveying the public

An opinion survey designed by Assembly research staff was circulated at the public hearings. Close to 2,500 surveys were distributed and 1,066 were completed and returned. These surveys were collated by staff and analyzed by an external consultant (see below, *Evaluation*).

In general, the respondents expressed positive opinions about the hearings; many expressed support for the process and the Assembly and its members. The key issues raised in the surveys included disproportionate representation (i.e., there is little relationship between votes cast and seats won), polarized politics, and wasted votes. An overwhelming majority of respondents (951 or 89%) indicated a need for change.

Commentary on "Implementing the Public Hearings"

Predicting attendance

Predicting the number of people who would attend a hearing was difficult. Some hearings in large urban centres had low attendance while a small community's attendance could exceed the capacity of the meeting facility. For the most part, citizens were very accommodating; however, a few facilities were clearly inadequate for presenters, Assembly members and the public.

Presentation time

The 10-minute presentation time was short and, for some people, was less time than they would have liked to make their presentation. Providing more time would have required longer hearings and members of the public appeared to have a two-and-a-half hour tolerance level.

Transporting equipment

Equipment support varied significantly from one facility to the next, leading the Assembly to purchase its own AV equipment. However, transporting the equipment and all of the print material from one corner of the province to the other required additional planning and the considerable effort and goodwill of the staff responsible for taking care of these resources.

Advocacy campaigns

Many presenters spoke as part of a provincial advocacy campaign. This presented a challenge for the Assembly members and public attendees in that many of these presenters were unable to answer questions on the model they were advocating. This raised doubts about whether they fully understood the content of their presentations. At the same time, the majority of presentations were well thought out and ably defended.

Incorrect information

During the hearings, some presenters made incorrect statements in support of their positions. This "misinformation" was not always corrected, possibly leaving members of the audience and the Assembly with erroneous perceptions.

Other presenters would sometimes challenge the "statements of error" during their presentation, which helped to raise awareness about possible problems with some presentations. The public was also referred to the information provided at the hearing and to the Assembly's website.

Conclusion: The Public Hearings Phase - Presentations

The hearings provided an opportunity for over 350 citizens to make a presentation to the Assembly. Public attendance at the hearings varied from about 20 people in very small communities to over 150 in one urban hearing. In all, close to 3,000 people participated in 50 hearings. A detailed breakdown by location is included in Table 21 (see next page).

The hearings served as a catalyst for many people to learn more about electoral systems and the implications for the province of adopting various systems. Many community members also appreciated the opportunity to meet Assembly members and to express their views. The following comments from one member of the public are representative of other comments.

> *Not knowing very much about the Assembly or the ramifications of electoral systems, I found the hearing and the information materials (fact sheets) available at the hearing incredibly informative. I had skimmed a brief article in my local paper about electoral systems and the Assembly, but was confused and did not understand the relevance of "the exercise."*
>
> *...[I] now understand how our electoral system determines the structure of our government. I now see the importance of electoral reform.... I understand the pros and cons of many electoral systems and as many of the attendees at the hearing, I am in favour of electoral reform.*

Written submissions

The Citizens' Assembly received 1,603 substantive submissions by the closing date of late September 2004. This date was chosen to allow members and staff time to consider information from the submissions before beginning the Deliberation Phase.

The Assembly had always intended to encourage public participation in its work through written submissions; however, with 160 members spread across the province, managing so many submissions proved a challenge. The decision to use a web-based system for processing and indexing submissions alleviated some of the problems, but it did not remove them. What it did do was make all of the submissions more accessible to members while making the submission process, and all the submissions themselves, open to the public through the Assembly's website.

Processing and presenting submissions

All submissions were given an identification (ID) code made up of the family name of the person making the submission and a four-digit number generated by the website. Each submission entry on the public website showed the full name and title (if provided) of the person making the submission, that person's residential community and province, the organization on behalf of which the submission was made (if applicable), the date on which the submission was entered on the website, and a broad categorization of the principal contents of the submission.

TABLE 21:
Public Hearing Attendance Statistics

Location	Date	Time	Presenters	Panel Members	Public
Abbotsford	June 5, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	8	16	45
Burnaby	May 5, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	7	14	75
Chilliwack	May 18, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	5	8	49
Coquitlam	June 1, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8	8	90
Courtenay/Comox	May 26, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	9	8	100
Cranbrook	June 21, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8	4	60
Dawson Creek	May 13, 2004	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3	5	45
Duncan	June 8, 2004	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	17	6	100
Fort Nelson	May 11, 2004	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	1	4	13
Fort St John	May 12, 2004	7:00 PM - 10:00 PM	6	5	40
Grand Forks	May 10, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	10	4	47
Kamloops	June 17, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	15	10	109
Kelowna	June 24, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	9	10	82
Langley	May 20, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	6	10	58
Lillooet	June 16, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	3	4	20
Maple Ridge	May 19, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	3	9	60
Merritt	June 15, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	1	5	20
Nanaimo	May 27, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	10	10	100
Nelson	May 11, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	12	8	100
New Westminster	May 6, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	9	10	25
North Vancouver	June 2, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	12	10	100
Penticton	June 23, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	5	8	75
Port Alberni	June 9, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	6	6	70
Port McNeill	May 25, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	3	5	12
Powell River	May 15, 2004	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	13	9	50
Prince George	May 10, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	11	11	65
Prince Rupert	June 9, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	2	5	22
Princeton	June 14, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	1	4	15
Queen Charlotte City	June 12, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	2	6	4
Quesnel	May 11, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8	6	50
Radium	June 22, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	1	4	10
Revelstoke	June 22, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	3	5	18

Location	Date	Time	Presenters	Panel Members	Public
Richmond	May 4, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8	12	60
Salt Spring	June 19, 2004	12:00 PM - 3:00 PM	8	6	60
Sechelt	June 5, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	14	6	75
Sidney/Victoria	June 7, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	14	13	120
Smithers	June 23, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	11	7	55
Sparwood	May 8, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	2	4	11
Surrey 1st meeting	May 31, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	10	14	75
Surrey 2nd meeting	May 15, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	12	13	85
Terrace	June 8, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	7	8	24
Ucluelet	May 15, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	4	4	13
Valemount	May 8, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	7	4	20
Vancouver 1st meeting	May 3, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	8	5	90
Vancouver 2nd meeting	May 29, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	9	13	70
Vancouver 3rd meeting	June 12, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	16	13	54
Vernon	June 21, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	12	11	112
Victoria	June 10, 2004	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	14	12	160
Whistler	June 3, 2004	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	5	7	20
Williams Lake	June 19, 2004	1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	5	6	18
TOTAL ATTENDANCE			**383**	**395**	**2851**

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The body of the submission was shown as text, or as a linked document. Copies of all submissions (including original documents if typed or handwritten) were also printed for archiving and to provide printed sets of submissions for members of the Assembly or the public to view at the Assembly's office.

An abstract (maximum length 250 characters including spaces) summarizing the theme of the submission as it related to the Assembly's mandate was prepared and attached to each submission by the associate research officer. If the title of the submission adequately described the submission's contents, the title was sometimes used as the abstract. A number in squared brackets (e.g., [7 pages]) showed the number of pages which would be used if the whole submission was printed from the website. One page could indicate a whole page of text or just a few words.

The submission's ID code, the abstract, the submission category, the name of the person making the submission, and the date on which the submission was entered on the website were all shown on a submission list on the "View submissions" page of the Assembly's website. Clicking on the ID code gave access to the full submission.

The submissions varied in length from a single sentence to documents of over 70 pages, and in format from hand-written notes to sophisticated electronic documents. Depending on when a submission was received, it was processed and presented in one of three ways (Table 22):

TABLE 22:
Submissions by Type

SUBMISSION TYPE	SUBMISSIONS	
	n	%
Online	1385	86.4
Linked document	119	7.4
Scanned document	97	6.1
Not online	2	0.1
TOTAL SUBMISSIONS	**1603**	**100.0**
Not published (errors & duplicates)	66	4.0
TOTAL ENTRIES RECEIVED BY WEBSITE	**1669**	**100.0**

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

- ***Online submissions (These submissions were presented as text on the website.)***
  The majority of these submissions were received through the submission form available on the "Make a submission" page of the Assembly's website. A large number were also received as email submissions. The submissions were reformated where necessary and entered in the website together with the name and contact details of the person making the submission.

  A few online submissions were entered from attached or scanned documents; it was felt that documents which were short and had simple formatting would be more accessible online than as linked documents. A very few online submissions were entered from hand-written documents which would have been difficult to read if they had been displayed as scanned documents.

- ***Linked documents***
  Documents submitted in electronic format which were more than a few pages long, had complex formatting or contained tables and charts could not be entered online as text. These submissions were uploaded to the Assembly's website and shown as linked documents. In addition to the abstract and submission details, an icon with an abbreviated title of the document appeared in a "Related links" field of the submission. If the submission arrived in either MS Word or Excel format, this link was preserved. All linked documents were made available in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format so that they could be viewed by anyone who had a current version of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

  All but a few of these documents were received as files attached to emails sent to the Assembly; the remainder were submitted as files on floppy disks.

- ***Scanned documents***
  These were received as typewritten or hand-written documents. After being scanned, some typewritten documents were entered directly as online submissions; others were kept as MS Word and PDF documents. Still other documents were displayed both online and as scanned documents if a component of the scanned document could not be displayed online. Submissions which were displayed primarily as linked documents were listed as "scanned documents"; an icon with a short reference to the document appeared in a "Related links" field of the submission.

A few hand-written submissions were entered online but most were scanned as PDF documents and appeared as a linked icon.

Three other kinds of submissions should be mentioned.

- ***Links to other websites***
  The aim of several submissions was to draw the Assembly's attention to information or commentary on specific websites. These links were usually included in the body of the submission; a few had the link in the "Related links" field below the submission content.

- ***Not online***
  Only two submissions could not be displayed on the website; their abstracts and submission details were listed on the site. One of these was a book on Canadian government, the other was a hand-drawn diagram of great complexity.

- ***Errors and duplicates***
  Some entries from the online submission form appeared to have been made in error: they were blank, missing content, or duplicates of existing submissions. In addition, some multiple online submissions from the same person could be consolidated into a single submission, and a few submissions were withdrawn at the request of the person making the submission. As the website automatically assigned an ID code to every submission form, the number of substantive submissions (1,603) posted to the website was less than the apparent number of submissions (1,669).

While 1,603 submissions were received by the Assembly, only 1,439 people made submissions. One hundred and eight people made more than one submission; a few made many more than two. The figures in Table 23 slightly understate the number of multiple submissions: a few submissions that dealt with the same topic and were processed on the same date were consolidated.

TABLE 23:
Number of Submissions per Submitter

SUBMITTERS	N	%
Submitters with 1 submission	1331	92.49
Submitters with 2 or more submissions	108	7.51
Submitters with 5 or more submissions	10	0.70
Submitters with 10 or more submissions	3	0.21
TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBMITTERS	**1439**	**100.00**

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

There also were a few cases of the identical submission being made by several people, either members of the same household, or a group of people with the same views. If these submissions were sent in under separate names they were treated as separate submissions.

Submissions to the Assembly were overwhelmingly from British Columbia, with over 4% from outside the province and approximately 2% from outside Canada (Table 24 - see next page). A disproportionate number of the latter group were very long submissions with extensive commentary on one or more electoral systems.

TABLE 24:
Origin of Submissions

ORIGIN	SUBMISSIONS		SUBMITTERS	
	n	%	n	%
British Columbia	1530	95.45	1383	96.11
Ontario	30	1.87	17	1.18
Manitoba	4	0.25	3	0.21
Quebec	4	0.25	3	0.21
Yukon	2	0.12	2	0.14
Newfoundland	1	0.06	1	0.07
Nova Scotia	1	0.06	1	0.07
Nunavut	1	0.06	1	0.07
Total from Canada	**1573**	**98.13**	**1411**	**98.05**
United Kingdom	16	1.00	14	0.97
United States of America	8	0.50	8	0.56
New Zealand	2	0.12	2	0.14
Australia	1	0.06	1	0.07
China	1	0.06	1	0.07
Finland	1	0.06	1	0.07
Germany	1	0.06	1	0.07
Total from outside Canada	**30**	**1.87**	**28**	**1.95**
TOTAL	**1603**	**100.00**	**1439**	**100.00**

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

Using a web-based system for processing and indexing submissions

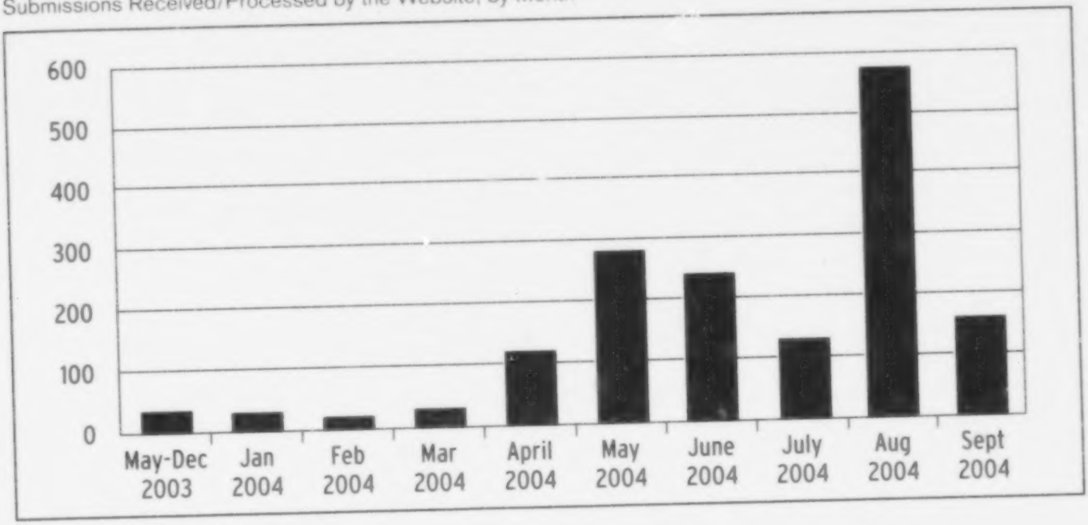
The Assembly found many advantages in using a web-based system for processing and indexing submissions. The most important were:

- a single format to abstract and index all submissions;
- the ability of Assembly members with access to the internet to review submissions as they were processed and published;
- the search function on the website which enabled searches of the submissions and all linked documents by keyword or phrase, in addition to searches by name and ID code;
- the transparency of the submission process to the general public;
- the ability of members of the public to make online submissions; and
- the capacity for submitters to respond to other (previously-made) submissions, thereby fostering a public dialogue on the issues.

However, the web-based process was not without its problems, including:

- the need for staff members:
  - willing to master a web-based system and related computer software;
  - responsible for coordinating a range of computer-based and secretarial activities related to processing submissions; and
- the fact that there were three ways of making submissions—online, by email and by written document—meant that there were three streams of submissions each requiring different treatments before they could be displayed on the web;
- the fact that while online submissions required little formatting before they were published on the website, submissions in the body of emails, electronic documents arriving as email attachments or on computer disk, or typed or hand-written documents, all required formatting—sometimes a time-consuming process—before being published; and
- the uneven flow of submissions (Chart 2 - see next page) made managing the workload a challenge. Submissions generally increased over time and appeared to increase following particular well-publicized events. For example:
  - April's increase followed publication of the Assembly's Preliminary Statement;
  - May's increase corresponded with the start of the public hearings; and

CHART 2:
Submissions Received/Processed by the Website, by Month



BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

- August's large increase followed the announcement of the closing date for making a submission.

Commentary

The ability of the public to make online submissions with ease meant that the Assembly received many short submissions of only a few words or sentences. While these contributions were a welcome indication of the range of views on electoral reform, the large number of such submissions made in August just before the deadline for submissions delayed processing and publishing.

Submission content

In addition to providing a great deal of useful information on electoral systems, submissions to the Assembly gave members an appreciation of the wide range of issues relating to electoral reform which concern British Columbians.

The submissions varied widely in their content. Some submissions detailed proposals for a new electoral system for British Columbia, others were arguments for one kind of electoral system or another, and still others were short expressions of opinion about electoral systems, politics in British Columbia, or the governmental process in parliamentary democracies.

Many online submissions included detailed proposals for electoral change or extensive commentary on the electoral system, the most detailed submissions being those with attached documents (related links) outlining the way in which a particular electoral system would work in this province. One of the shortest submissions stated "I favour MMP as a method of counting votes."

In the process of making an abstract for each submission, the submissions were placed in one or more broad categories intended to give a rough idea of the principal issue or issues covered in the submission. The categories (included with the abstract on the list of submissions on the Assembly's webpage) were:

- Citizens' Assembly process;
- democratic elections (may include issues outside the Assembly's mandate);
- democratic government (may include issues outside the Assembly's mandate);
- electoral system change;
- electoral system no change;
- link to other resources;
- minority representation;
- regional representation; and
- other (may include issues outside the Assembly's mandate).

Three of these categories were not directly concerned with the Assembly's mandate. The "Other" category was for submissions with no clear link to any issue relating to electoral reform. "Democratic elections" and "Democratic government" both indicated that the submission made comments about the political process that were not related to the issue of how the electoral system should translate votes into seats in British Columbia's Legislative Assembly. Arguments for compulsory voting (for example) were listed under "Democratic elections," and proposals for introducing a second chamber in the legislature or directly electing the premier were listed under "Democratic government."

As illustrated by Table 25, a large majority of submissions favoured electoral change. That said, there were differences in the kind of change recommended.

TABLE 25:
Submissions by Category

CATEGORY	SUBMISSIONS n	SUBMISSIONS %
1 Citizens' Assembly process	71	3.7
2 Democratic elections	112	5.9
3 Democratic government	119	6.3
4 Electoral system change	1442	75.8
5 Electoral system no change	44	2.3
6 Link to other resources	17	0.9
7 Minority representation	22	1.2
8 Regional representation	32	1.7
TOTAL (some more than one category)	**1903**	**100.0**
Not directly linked to mandate (2 + 3 + 9 see text for explanation)	275	14.5

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

As illustrated in Table 26, a search of abstracts coded to indicate that a particular electoral system had been commented on showed that more than half of the submissions dealt with a mixed member proportional (MMP) system, although not all of these comments were favourable. Another 20% favoured proportional representation (PR) in a

TABLE 26:
Submissions by Most Frequently Mentioned Electoral System

ELECTORAL SYSTEMS	SUBMISSIONS n	SUBMISSIONS %	SUBMISSIONS %
Alternative vote (AV)	50	3.7	3.119
Mixed member proportional (MMP) (This includes a wide range of MMP systems some of which may not produce a proportional result)	849	63.1	53.0
Proportional representation (PR)	277	20.6	17.280
Single transferable vote (STV)	170	12.6	10.6
TOTAL	**1346**	**100.0**	**84.0**
TOTAL SUBMISSIONS	**1603**		**100.0**

BC Citizens' Assembly, 2004

general way. Some submissions did not distinguish between MMP and PR; however, it is likely that somewhere between 70% and 80% of submissions which identified a particular electoral system favoured MMP of some kind. There were wide variations in the kind of MMP system proposed, from fully-proportional systems (technically the only systems that can be called MMP), to partially-proportional systems (sometimes called MMP-Lite or mixed member compensatory).

A further 13% of submissions mentioned proportional representation by single transferable vote (STV); not all of these submissions endorsed it. The only other system to gain significant mention was the alternative vote (AV) at 4%.

Some submissions proposed electoral systems in considerable detail, or had extensive commentary on a particular electoral system (Table 27).

TABLE 27:
Electoral Systems Dealt With in Some Detail in Longer Submissions

ELECTORAL SYSTEMS (see text for explanation)	LONGER SUBMISSIONS n	%
Alternative vote (AV)	10	12.5
Approval voting	2	2.5
Borda count	3	3.8
First past the post (FPTP)	4	5.0
Mixed member proportional (MMP) (This includes a wide range of mixed member systems some of which would not produce a proportional result)	42	52.5
Proportional representation (PR)	2	2.5
Single transferable vote (STV)	14	17.5
Other systems	3	3.8
TOTAL	**80**	**100.0**

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To help members, a list was compiled of submissions of four or more pages. The list excluded submissions that did not address material falling within the Assembly's mandate, or that did not focus on a particular electoral system. The intent was to provide a (manageable) list of substantive submissions describing the range of electoral systems proposed by the people who presented submissions. The list also provided a pool of ideas from which Assembly members could draw to refine their own thoughts about desirable electoral systems for British Columbia.

While four or more pages was an arbitrary criteria (there were many excellent shorter submissions), setting out the advantages and disadvantages of an electoral system in some detail requires a substantial effort (and space) by the person making the submission. While the expressions of opinion in shorter submissions were a vital component of the information available to members, the longer submissions had a special role to play.

Access to submissions

About three-quarters of the Assembly members had internet access and could review submissions online. However, even for the most conscientious members, navigating and reviewing the large number of submissions received by August 2004 was a complicated and time-consuming task.

To help members, documents with sets of abstracts were periodically distributed to all members. For those without internet access, the abstracts indicated the nature of the submissions received by the Assembly and gave them a list from which they could pick submissions to be sent to them by mail.

By the end of the submission period, lists of submission abstracts were available as Excel documents. These could be sorted and searched. In addition, from early September 2004, an upgrade to the submission software module on the Assembly's website speeded up the process of searching for and displaying submission abstracts.

Conclusion: The Public Hearings Phase - Submissions

Many members gave their impressions and assessment of the body of submissions when the Assembly met to begin the Deliberation Phase. It was clear from the discussion that most members had made themselves familiar with a substantial proportion of the submissions. A number of members were very active in reviewing submissions and shared their assessments on the Discussion Forum on the members-only website. These members found some submissions of greater interest and assistance than others and references to these were circulated widely.

In addition to providing a wealth of information about electoral systems, the submissions made three other, no less important, contributions to the Assembly's work. The first was that they indicated that some voters in British Columbia doubt the efficacy and legitimacy of the current voting system. While it is not possible to determine how representative these views are, they clearly articulated a persistent theme: the current First-Past-the-Post system does not provide appropriate or fair representation.

The second contribution was to remind members of the difficulties inherent in devising an electoral system to replace the current one. In reviewing proposals to formulate a new electoral system, members could see the problems that might confront the Assembly.

And the submissions brought home to members the seriousness of their task. The fact that more than 1,500 British Columbians (Table 24) sent in a submission on the topic of electoral reform was an endorsement of the Assembly's mandate. This was reinforced by the significant proportion of submissions which strongly supported the work of the Assembly and expressed admiration for the dedication and fair-mindedness that the members brought to their task.

On balance, the web-based system for submissions was very successful. In addition to providing a way in which submissions could be accessed by most members of the Assembly, it opened up the submission process to public scrutiny. The difficulties encountered with the submission process were not the consequence of any problem with the concept, rather they related to minor design flaws, learning how to operate an unfamiliar system, and lumpiness in the flow of submissions.

The Prince George meeting

Following the Learning Phase Assembly members were to serve on the various public hearing panels during May and June, then meet again in September for the Deliberation Phase, a break of five months. However, as the Learning Phase came to a close, it became clear that this was too long a break. Members were anxious to stay in touch and felt it important they have an opportunity to share and discuss what they learned in the public hearings. Consequently, a meeting for the whole assembly was scheduled for the end of June. This was held in Prince George[5] to signal the members' interest in all parts of the province.

The Prince George meeting reviewed the messages that had been heard in the public hearings and heard a preliminary analysis of the submissions that had been received to date. The meeting also revisited the preliminary decision-tree, instructing staff to refine it further. A new document was subsequently circulated and over 130 members commented on it, indicating strong support for the proposed critical path.

Discussions at this meeting also made it clear that the members continued to be unhappy with the process for discussion group reporting. The suggestion was made that by adding a note taker responsible for producing a summary report for each discussion group, no single member would need to assume the task of summarizing the views and ideas of fellow members, and the facilitators would be free to concentrate on their responsibilities. The Assembly accepted this suggestion and the research and administrative staff recruited 10 note takers in advance of the opening of the Deliberation Phase.

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[5] Local Assembly members organized much of this meeting.

Deliberation Phase (September to November 2004)

Introduction

The challenge of the Deliberation Phase was two-fold:

- to have the Assembly move to a consensus position that would allow it to:
  - reach a conclusion and make a recommendation with respect to its mandate to review and assess the current electoral system used in the province;
  - if appropriate, recommend possible alternatives; and
- to continue to have the members work together, regardless of differences in value positions and opinions.

The online Discussion Forum

The Discussion Forum on the members-only section of the Assembly website provided members—including members who seldom spoke during plenary or in the discussions groups—a place to "talk," or, in some cases, just "listen." Throughout the Fall this conversation focussed on the various families and aspects of electoral systems discussed in the weekend session (e.g., MMP, STV, List Proportional, proportionality, local representation, voter participation).

The members who joined the Forum found the online discussions integral to their work. Questions posted to the Forum were often brought forward to the weekend sessions or were forwarded to the Assembly's research staff.

Assessing electoral systems

The Deliberation Phase sessions took place at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver between September and November 2004. As with the Learning Phase, out-of-town and some local Assembly members were accommodated at the hotel adjacent to the Centre for Dialogue for Friday and Saturday nights. Each of the formal sessions was open to the public and was held Saturday morning and afternoon and again on Sunday morning. Documents were distributed in advance of the weekend sessions in much the same way as they were distributed in the Learning Phase.

On several Saturday evenings, members held closed-door discussions to discuss ideas and issues of concern. These informal get-togethers were optional and chaired by one of the members. Attendance ranged between 60 and 120.

The plan for the first four sessions of the Deliberation Phase called for the Assembly to:

- articulate its underlying values and choose the features of an electoral system might best reflect the voter;
- choose the type of electoral system that could incorporate the features it identified as important;
- construct detailed versions of possible alternative electoral systems that would meet the needs of British Columbians;
- compare these alternatives against each other and the best of them against the current single-member plurality electoral system; and
- decide on its recommendation, recognizing that a recommendation for change would be put to the electorate at the time of the next general election scheduled for May 17, 2005.

The last two sessions of the Deliberation Phase were set aside for discussing the content and design of the Final Report, for refining the wording of any recommendations, and for addressing any unfinished business.

Deliberation Phase: Session One

The first day consisted of nine presentations chosen from all the presentations given in the public hearings (see *Appendix – Presentations to the Assembly (Session One)*). These presentations covered the general issues facing the Assembly; several made detailed arguments for a particular type of electoral system, including maintaining the current system. Assembly members had an opportunity to meet the presenters and question them during the day.

The second day began with a plenary overview from the research staff. This presentation reviewed the key aspects of different electoral systems—and the consequences of their adoption—that members needed to consider when choosing an electoral system. The Assembly then moved into discussion groups to debate the criteria that they might apply to assessing electoral systems. In particular, members focused on identifying the elements of electoral systems they considered most important—those that reflected their basic values—and those that were of least concern to them.

Three features were deemed essential:

- effective local representation;
- the principle of proportionality, which requires that the share of seats in the Legislative Assembly reflect the votes cast by British Columbians; and
- maximum voter choice.

At the same time, members reported that they did not believe that it was important that an electoral system be chosen on the basis that it led to "single party majority governments."

This first set of decisions allowed the Assembly to base the subsequent discussion of electoral systems in terms of these basic values.

Deliberation Phase: Session Two

Session Two opened with a presentation on "Getting to Yes" delivered by an external consultant with considerable experience in group dynamics. Over the previous eight months, members had developed preferences for different electoral models and features within those models, and this session was designed to help members resolve differences, reach consensus and continue working together.

The Assembly then adopted amendments to two important procedural steps. These steps provided the foundation for the subsequent decision-making process.

Redesigning the discussion group process: In Assembly meetings to this point, discussion groups had reported their common views back to the plenary sessions. However, many members felt that reporting majority decisions reached in small groups under-represented minority positions and tended to oversimplify arguments in favour of decisions.

At the same time, members valued the groups. They provided many members with a less intimidating environment than the plenary in which to discuss issues and they provided all members with the opportunity to organize their thoughts before expressing their views in plenary sessions. Consequently, it was decided that the groups would be retained as a place to examine issues and concepts, not as a forum for group decision-making. Formal group-based reporting to the plenary ended and individual members brought their own views from these discussions to the full Assembly.

Restating the critical path: The critical path circulated in July and August, and reviewed in the first deliberation session, was restated and adopted in the form of a 10-step decision sequence. This statement, "Decisions to Final Report" (see *Appendix: 10 Decisions*), provided the Assembly with a clear sense of the tasks to be undertaken and a reasonable schedule for their completion.

Defining the key electoral system features for British Columbia

The chair called for a formal indication of Assembly support for the three system features identified in Session One as fundamental to any electoral system appropriate for the province. By consensus, the Assembly affirmed that in British Columbia:

1) the electoral system should translate vote shares into seat shares in a way that reflects the preferences of the electorate—the principle of proportionality—to achieve **fair electoral results**;
2) the electoral system should incorporate **effective local representation**; and
3) the ballot used in provincial elections should provide for **greater voter choice**.

Adopting these elements provided benchmark criteria that allowed the Assembly to assess the appropriateness of different electoral systems. Two clear conclusions flowed from this position.

- The importance of effective local representation indicated that Proportional Representation List-systems would not be acceptable.
- The importance of proportionality indicated that majoritarian electoral systems would not be acceptable.

Basing its analysis of electoral systems in terms of the underlying values of the systems led the Assembly to conclude that two types of electoral systems could provide acceptable alternatives to the province's current system:

- single transferable vote (STV) systems used (for example) in jurisdictions in Australia and in the Irish Republic; and
- mixed-member proportional (MMP) systems used (for example) in Germany and New Zealand.

The Assembly ruled out considering mixed-member systems that were not, in practice, proportional, such as those used (for example) in Japan.

Following its decision-tree, the Assembly reviewed the structural features of both STV and MMP systems. Given that fewer discrete decisions were required to describe an STV system, the Assembly decided to begin with it.

In small groups and then in full plenary, members discussed and then reached consensus on the elements of an STV system that they believed would be appropriate for the province. There was a full discussion of each element and, where necessary, votes were held to determine preferences.

The STV model developed by the Assembly included the following elements:

- District magnitudes (see *Appendix: Glossary*) should vary from two (2) to three (3) members in rural and sparsely-populated regions to magnitudes of five (5) to seven (7) members in urban and more densely-populated areas.
- The Droop quota (see *The Recommended BC-STV Electoral System*, as well as *Appendix: Glossary*) should be used for calculating the number of votes necessary to elect a member to the Legislative Assembly.

- The ballot should have candidates grouped by party and candidates' names randomized within each group.
- Voters should rank-order their choices, ranking only as many choices as preferred.
- The counting rules should provide for full replicability.
- Vacancies should be determined by a by-election using the preferential vote method.

Deliberation Phase: Session Three

This session was devoted to outlining an MMP electoral system appropriate for British Columbia. The process followed that used during Session Two. Following a plenary review of the more than a dozen individual decisions that would be necessary to design an MMP system, members began with small group discussions and then moved to plenary debates to identify and agree on an MMP model. The model they agreed to included the following elements:

- The mix of single-member constituency and party list seats would be in the ratio of 60:40.
- Voters would have two separate votes, one for a local constituency candidate and one for the party of their preference.
- Party vote shares would be determined on the basis of a party's overall provincial vote share.
- Party list seats would be assigned from regionally-organized, open lists.
- Parties would have to achieve 3% of the provincial vote to be entitled to any list seats.
- Candidates would be free to run in either or both parts of the system.
- Elections in single-member constituencies would be by the Alternate (preferential) Vote method.
- Vacancies in constituency seats would be determined through by-elections using the Alternate (preferential) Vote method.

The Assembly agreed that this framework outlined an MMP system in sufficient detail to allow it to assess its merits. It recognized that if an MMP system was chosen, several decisions would be necessary. These would include deciding on:

- provisions for list access by political parties;
- the proportional formula for allocating seats;
- how to address "overhang" seats;
- a vacancy rule for list seats—the Assembly had agreed that such seats would go to the party that won it at the general election;
- ballot forms; and
- the appropriate regional structure for list seat assignments.

Deliberation Phase: Session Four

The fourth session brought the Assembly together to decide on its recommendations. Members were first to determine which of the systems they had "constructed" best corresponded to their values, the needs of the province, and the institutional imperatives of the wider constitutional and parliamentary system. At that point the members were to compare the better of the two systems against the current First-Past-the-Post electoral system.

Using the approach successfully developed and employed in the previous session, members reviewed the systems in plenary, then moved into discussion groups to discuss the chosen options. They then returned to plenary for a final debate and decision. Care was taken during the plenary session to give all first-time speakers the opportunity to express themselves. After extensive deliberations, the Assembly agreed to put the choice to a secret ballot.

The question placed before the Assembly was:

ASSEMBLY VOTE – OCT 23, 2004

Which of the two alternatives would best serve British Columbia?

MMP – 31 **STV – 123**

On the Sunday morning, Assembly members began with a plenary presentation on the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and the implications of changing to an STV electoral system. Following the same process, the members retired to group discussions before returning to a plenary session to discuss the pros and cons of STV and FPTP systems.

Presenters made compelling statements on both systems before the chair called for the first of two secret ballots. The first ballot asked:

ASSEMBLY VOTE – OCT 24, 2004

Do we recommend retaining the current First-Past-the-Post electoral system in British Columbia?

YES – 11 **NO – 142**

This vote was followed by a second question.

Do we recommend the STV (BC-STV) system to the people of British Columbia in a referendum on May 17, 2005?

YES – 146 **NO – 7**

The Assembly had reached its landmark decisions.

Deliberation Phase: Sessions Five and Six

The final two sessions were devoted to completing the work of the Assembly. In the fifth session Assembly members reviewed the STV model, confirming their intentions with respect to the appropriate size of electoral districts (i.e., the number of MLAs to be elected) to ensure proportionality, and confirming the counting rules. Members then turned their attention to a number of issues that had been repeatedly raised in submissions and at public hearings.

Although the Assembly was resolved not to make recommendations on issues beyond its mandate, members did decide to report what they had heard (see *Other Issues Raised by British Columbians*). The members also reviewed a draft of their Final Report and gave instructions to the staff on its preparation.

The sixth and final weekend session began with a visit from the Premier, the Hon. Gordon Campbell, and the Attorney General, the Hon. Geoff Plant. This was the first contact members had with the government. The Premier congratulated the Assembly on its work and praised the members for the non-partisan commitment they had brought to an important task. He then presented each member with a certificate of appreciation from the province. Clearly, the members appreciated the premier's presence and leadership in creating the Assembly, and for ensuring its independence from government.

The Assembly next reviewed and confirmed the contents and design of the Final Report. Members then turned their attention to the challenge of communicating their message to the wider public. This brought the public work of the Assembly to a close.

On Sunday morning members met in a private plenary session organized by an ad hoc committee of members who are taking the lead in creating a Citizens' Assembly Alumni. This association will provide a way for members to remain in touch during the period leading up to the referendum on May 17, 2005.

Evaluation

Weekend session surveys

Given the unique character of the Assembly it was clear that a systematic evaluation of its activities and decision-making processes would be an important legacy of its work. To ensure the evaluation was done impartially and to the highest standards, an external consultant was contracted to conduct an evaluation program.

At or near the end of each weekend session during the Learning and Deliberation Phases, all Assembly members were asked to complete a survey. These surveys had several objectives, including:

- monitoring the Assembly's success in meeting its process and value norms;
- evaluating staff performance;
- identifying opportunities for improving the weekend sessions;
- monitoring member satisfaction; and
- tracking both the experience of individual members and the Assembly as an institutional experiment.

Survey design

A fairly robust and comprehensive 'mini-model' provided a framework to help ensure surveys were balanced and well-rounded. The model created a handy checklist for survey design: "focus, commitment, and capability" or "head, heart, and hands." (Head referring to focus and understanding, heart to commitment or motivation, and hands to the skill or expertise required to get the job done.) Each weekend session survey had questions in all three categories.

The surveys were kept short (two pages), allowing members to fill them out before they left their final session of the weekend. The surveys were built around four sets of statements and open-ended questions that were repeated each week. Questions typically took the form of statements (e.g., "The material was presented clearly.") which members were asked to respond to on a 5-point, Agree – Disagree scale.

The first set of statements examined primary objectives such as member commitment, pride, sense of ownership of the process, sense of community, respect for each other, openness to the opinions of others, commitment to the mandate and process, and enthusiasm for the next session.

A second set of statements was designed to examine staff performance. These targeted availability and helpfulness, and whether members felt properly prepared for the session. Each survey included several statements focused on the discussion groups and the elements of successful facilitation, providing data for a weekly assessment of each discussion group facilitator.

The third set of statements was designed to identify opportunities for improvement, while the fourth set—used in conjunction with the statements examining process and values—measured and monitored Assembly member satisfaction with the sessions and with the process in general.

The open-ended questions provided a broad range of feedback on Assembly members' ideas, feelings, and opinions. These answers proved useful for gauging the morale of the Assembly. It was always the most useful in terms of gathering specific suggestions for change from the members.

A separate set of questions varied with each session. These questions were used to gauge members' knowledge of the issues on the agenda and the value of the learning experience provided by each weekend session. The surveys asked members to rate the value or effectiveness of each individual session or guest lecture, including the plenary sessions and small group discussions.

Each survey also appended a few questions designed to track the evolution of information and opinion on electoral system questions, and the values members thought appropriate when assessing different types of electoral arrangements.

Results

An example of the survey tool used in the Learning and Deliberation Phases and a report on the results of the surveys can be found at *Appendix: Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation.*

Public Hearings Questionnaire

The Assembly asked the staff to prepare a survey that could be completed by attendees at the public hearings. This survey had two objectives:

- to solicit the public's opinion about the electoral system; and
- to assess the effectiveness of the public hearings and to make adjustments based on an analysis of the results.

The surveys were placed on the chairs prior to the start of each hearing and audience members were asked to complete them before leaving the hearing, or to mail the completed survey to the Assembly's office.

Of the approximately 3,000 people who attended the hearings, 1,066 returned a completed survey. Assembly staff entered the data in an Excel spreadsheet, with a separate worksheet for each hearing. This file was then forwarded to the external consultant who had been retained to conduct the evaluation program.

Results

An example of the survey tool used in the public hearings surveys and a report on the results of the surveys can be found at *Appendix: Public Hearing Questionnaire.*

Measuring success

Prior to the start of the Learning Phase, Assembly staff prepared criteria to measure the success of the Assembly. These criteria were circulated to members as part of their handbook. The Assembly was successful in meeting all of these measures of success.

Measures and activities

1. *Observers of the Citizens' Assembly will judge that a variety of electoral systems in use around the world have been fairly and clearly presented.*

   Presentations to Assembly members were provided in a non-partisan fashion by well-respected British Columbians and international academics. Vaughn Palmer, of the Vancouver Sun, reported that the presentations were "an impressive demonstration of the professionalism and integrity of the Assembly staff."

2. *The independence, integrity (fairness) and competence of the Citizens' Assembly staff will not be questioned.*

   There were no questions raised about the independence of the staff. Assembly members consistently gave very high ratings to all the staff in their regular evaluations.

3. *Citizens throughout BC will become engaged with the Citizens' Assembly process, accessing our learning materials, attending*

Assembly meetings and public hearings, and discussing various voting systems with friends and colleagues.

The public—in person and on the web—was highly engaged in the Assembly's work. Public hearings, personal submissions, regular web traffic and television presentations of plenary sessions suggest unprecedented numbers of British Columbians participated with the Assembly members in their deliberations.

4. *Members will understand different electoral systems and will feel prepared to make decisions about which system(s) would work best for BC.*

   Reports from members indicate that they learned a great deal about electoral systems during the Learning Phase. In addition, many did independent research that they shared with other members. The final decision reflected a sophisticated debate on democratic values and their manifestation in institutional form.

5. *Members will feel they are respected as individuals and that their opinions are given due consideration.*

6. *Members will be open to the opinions of others and will seek to understand why persons hold views which differ from theirs.*

   All evaluations reported that members believed their opinions and ideas were accepted and respected by their fellow members.

7. *Members will assume a real sense of ownership of the Assembly and its process and will care very much about its perception as a transparent, open, and effective learning organization.*

   Members consistently supported the policy of having all their plenary sessions open to the public and it welcomed serious research on Assembly processes. At the conclusion of their work, Assembly members, independent of staff, established an alumni association to continue the educational process and to support their decision publicly.

8. *Members, regardless of whether their views prevailed in the final report, will feel proud of their work and their contributions to BC.*

   The members have indicated solid support for their report and believe that they have made a major contribution not only to British Columbia, but also to the cause of public participation.

9. *Members will be sorry to see the process conclude and to lose the sense of community which has been established.*

   While acknowledging that membership in the Assembly had required a major commitment of time and energy, members were sorry the process had finished. Many members will participate in an alumni association and many plan to gather on May 17, 2005 to see in the referendum results together.

10. *Members will report they are given full and considerate help from the Citizens' Assembly staff.*

    The Assembly staff consistently ranked high on the session evaluation surveys completed by members.

11. *The Citizens' Assembly will operate within the allocated budget.*

    The Assembly concluded its activities with a small surplus that was returned to the province.

12. *The Citizens' Assembly will be replicated on electoral reform or other important public policy questions.*

    The Prince Edward Island Electoral Reform Commission (Carruthers Report) recommended that that province establish a "BC-style" citizens' assembly, and the Province of Ontario has already announced it will hold a citizens' assembly on electoral reform. A committee of the parliament of Canada is charged with considering a citizens' assembly and the Government of Yukon appointed a commissioner to observe the British Columbia Citizens' Assembly and to prepare a recommendation to it on electoral reform in the Territory.

Communications

Introduction

The Assembly's communications staff faced several challenges. It had to provide a communication network and information support to 161 Assembly members who had never before met and did not necessarily have either interests or background in common. In addition, the subject matter of electoral systems is technical and one which few people have knowledge of outside of the experience of voting.

The communications staff also had to help organize and promote public hearings across the province, as well as generate sustained media and public interest in the Assembly's work and mandate. From the beginning it was recognized that public support for the Assembly's work would be important if and when the Assembly recommended changing the current electoral system.

These challenges were reflected in the three main objectives set by the communications staff:

- support the effective functioning of the Assembly;
- support Assembly members' communication with British Columbians; and
- elicit public interest and engagement.

Supporting the Assembly

Prior to the Assembly's first meeting in January 2004, each member received a handbook that provided them with organizational information (policies, forms, etc.) relevant to their work. This was supported by a regular newsletter e-mailed or mailed to all members.

Throughout the Learning and Deliberation Phases members received an "Announcement" sheet at the outset of each weekend session. The Announcement sheets highlighted important aspects of the sessions and provided other relevant information. Information packages were also mailed or e-mailed to members in advance of meetings.

Perhaps the most significant means of informing and engaging members outside of Assembly meetings was the members-only website (www.myassembly.ca) and the linked members-only Discussion Forum (see *Appendix: Website Design*). The website was updated regularly with information of interest to members and kept members fully informed about media stories on their activities. The staff provided computer/website training in evening sessions during the Learning Phase to aid members in using these electronic communications tools.

Talking to British Columbians

Members as ambassadors

The fact that members had been selected to represent their fellow citizens inevitably cast them in the role of ambassadors. In this role they were encouraged to meet with and speak to citizens' groups, students, seniors and the media.

To help and support members adjust to a role that was new to many of them, the communications staff offered workshops on making public presentations and prepared materials (speaking notes, PowerPoint presentations and short videotapes) that members could use. In February 2004 approximately half of the Assembly members attended an evening training session designed to help them work more effectively with the media. All members signed a release allowing staff to give their names and phone numbers to members of the media for the purpose of arranging and conducting interviews.

In March, as the public hearings were being organized, staff prepared a comprehensive communication toolkit for members containing presentation materials, information handouts and copies of the Assembly's *Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia*. Much of this information—particularly the fact sheets, videos and educational resources—was posted to the Assembly's public website where it was freely available.

Following both the Learning and Deliberation Phase plenary sessions, videotape recordings of the sessions were broadcast over the provincial legislature's TV service and carried by the major cable distributors throughout most of the province. These broadcasts were repeated several times to provide access to the widest possible audience of British Columbians.

Promoting the Public Hearings Phase

The public hearings were announced through the media, posters, targeted mailings and the Assembly's website. They were also promoted through approximately 170 print ads in community and major newspapers.

In addition to media releases and advisories for every public hearing, a series of feature stories prepared by Assembly staff were picked up by a number of daily and community papers around the province. These informative pieces discussed the Assembly process, introduced electoral system options, and promoted the hearings.

Assembly members distributed thousands of posters. The posters listed the public hearings in the local region and provided basic background information on the purpose of the Assembly. Staff mailed many thousands more posters, together with copies of the Preliminary Statement, for display in public buildings. In addition, an Assembly member sent public hearing notices to all of the province's media bulletin boards and community calendars. Individual Assembly members often took the initiative in advertising the Assembly and the public hearings: one member regularly set up an information booth in his local shopping mall, another attached a large sign to his truck as he drove about his district.

Throughout this period, staff actively sought speaking engagements for members through distribution of the Assembly newsletter, via the website and news releases, and through direct contact with community groups and service clubs throughout the province. One Assembly member volunteered in the summer to contact service and community clubs to offer Assembly speakers.

Over the course of 2004, members spoke to thousands of British Columbians, from seniors' groups to secondary school classes, from chambers of commerce to union meetings. In addition, many members wrote to their local papers promoting upcoming public hearings in their community. Others, with staff support, prepared feature articles for their local papers.

By the time the Public Hearings Phase had finished, in addition to all of the members having attended at least one public hearing as a panel member:

- 60% had done newspaper interviews;
- 49% had given public talks about the work of the Assembly;
- 38% had written letters to a newspaper about the Assembly;
- 21% had participated in a radio program about the Assembly; and

- 19% had participated in a TV program about the Assembly.

Given the rich mix of members in the Assembly these public contributions had been made in the Chinese, Punjabi and French language media, as well as in the English media.

Building public awareness

The Assembly newsletter

Approximately 1,800 people regularly received an Assembly newsletter, either by email or Canada Post. These people were identified through the website, at presentations and through the selection meetings and public hearings. The newsletter was emailed to all individuals who had made submissions to the Assembly, as well as MLAs and selected media, and posted to the Assembly's public website. It provided information on Assembly activities and information on the issues being addressed by members.

Working with the media

Staff worked to engage the media throughout the life of the Assembly, building and maintaining a comprehensive media list that covered the entire province. News releases and advisories were distributed in advance of every selection meeting, Assembly meeting and public hearing, as well as immediately following each event. Many of the releases were written for specific regions, providing a local angle to improve uptake by community media; others were more general and were distributed to all media in the province. Two series of feature stories—the first in the spring and the second in the fall of 2004—were prepared for newspapers around the province.

All media releases, together with Assembly member photographs and biographies, were posted to the Assembly's public website. The site also featured a range of information for media and public use, including background and historical materials on the Assembly, fact sheets on electoral systems (see *Appendix: Fact Sheets*), video and handouts from the Learning Phase, links and suggested reading.

Staff sought talk show engagements and media interviews for both staff and members. These were often timed to coincide with Assembly events.

Website

The website proved to be the most effective tool for keeping the media and the Assembly's stakeholder base informed and engaged. By November 30, 2004 the website had hosted 47,507 visitors from 148 countries who had visited over 1.4 million pages and downloaded 8,825 copies of audio and video clips and 9,667 copies of PowerPoint presentations.

The members-only website and its related Discussion Forum closed in late December 2004. At approximately the same time, the public website was frozen and turned over to the care of the Ministry of the Attorney General. The ministry advised the Assembly that it planned to keep the public site accessible, although static, at least to the date of the electoral referendum (17 May 2005). The website has been preserved in DVD format for research purposes; however, at the time of publication, it was still unclear how this will be made available to researchers and the public. A detailed schematic of the website is included in *Appendix: Website Design*.

The provincial government has stated that it intends to open a Referendum Information Office. Phone Enquiry British Columbia (604-660-2421 or 1-800-663-7867) or email EnquiryBC@gems3.gov.bc.ca for contact information.

Educational outreach

The Assembly worked hard to engage British Columbia Social Studies teachers and their students, specifically targeting the Grade 11 civics curriculum. The objective was to use the opportunity of the Assembly to enhance materials on democratic electoral politics available to teachers, as well as to raise awareness of the Assembly. Information packages and classroom resources were widely distributed. A special section for students and teachers was established on the website and staff attended two annual conferences of the Social Studies Teachers' Association. See *Appendix: Educational Resources* for examples of some of the information included in the packages.

One of the most successful initiatives was a partnership between the Assembly and Rockridge High School in West Vancouver. Ms Paula Waatainen, one of the school's social science teachers, organized a model Citizens' Assembly that included Assembly members and staff. This led to the students making an excellent presentation to one of the public hearings and Ms Waatainen developing a full set of lesson plans and materials that she made available to all interested.

Recording the Assembly process

The Assembly and the Knowledge Network, a provincial television network, co-operated to produce a one-hour documentary on the work of the Assembly. Knowledge Network also produced three vignettes focussed on the Assembly—two aired in 2004 and the third is to air in early 2005—and a 13-minute video used by the Assembly in public hearings and community meetings. The video provided a quick overview of the Assembly's work and discussed the range of alternative electoral systems used in other democratic political systems.

supporting materials

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Appendix: Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair

Terms of Reference (as ammended Dec. 10, 2003)

1 The Citizens' Assembly must assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly and issue a report recommending whether the current model for these elections should be retained or another model should be adopted.

2 In carrying out the assessment described in section 1, the Citizens' Assembly must consult with British Columbians and provide British Columbians with the opportunity to make submissions to the Citizens' Assembly in writing, and orally at public meetings.

3 If the Citizens' Assembly recommends under section 1 the adoption of a model for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly that is different from the current model,
(a) the model must be consistent with both the Constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system, and
(b) the model must be described clearly and in detail in its report.

4 The assessment described in section 1 must
(a) be limited to the manner by which voters' ballots are translated into seats in the Legislative Assembly, and
(b) take into account the potential effect of its recommended model on the system of government in British Columbia.

5 The chair is a member of the Citizens' Assembly and does not have a vote in its proceedings except to cast a deciding vote in the event of a tie.

6 Decisions on procedure during the proceedings of the Citizens' Assembly must be made by the chair or a deputy chair in the absence of the chair.

7 Decisions under section 6 may not be appealed to the Citizens' Assembly, but the chair, or a deputy chair in the absence of the chair, may request submissions from members of the Citizens' Assembly before making a decision.

8 Decisions of the Citizens' Assembly must be made by a vote of the majority of the Citizens' Assembly.

9 The Citizens' Assembly may expel any of its members except the chair, for cause, as defined by the Citizens' Assembly, by a 2/3 majority vote.

10 The Citizens' Assembly must present its final version of the report described in section 1 to the Attorney General no later than December 15, 2004, for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.

11 On presentation of the final version of the report to the Attorney General, the chair may arrange for the publication of the report.

12 The Citizens' Assembly may make reports described in section 1 of an interim nature to a Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly that the Legislative Assembly appoints for this purpose.

Appendix: Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair (continued)

Duties of the Chair

1 The chair must supervise the selection process for the creation of a Citizens' Assembly to assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and recommend whether the current election model should be retained or another model should be adopted. Details concerning the terms of reference of the Citizens' Assembly are set out in a separate order in council.

2 The Citizens' Assembly is to be broadly representative of the adult population of British Columbia, particularly respecting age, gender and geographical distribution. The selection process for the creation of the Citizens' Assembly must therefore include the following steps:

(a) with the approval and under the supervision of the chief electoral officer, a stratified sample of names must be drawn at random from the provincial voters' list according to the following criteria:
  (i) an equal number of names must be drawn for each of the 79 provincial electoral districts;
  (ii) an equal number of men's and women's names must be drawn;
  (iii) the names drawn must reflect the age distribution of the provincial population aged 18 and over;
(b) those persons whose names are drawn and who are not ineligible for participation must be invited to indicate whether they are interested in becoming a member of the Citizens' Assembly;
(c) interested persons must be invited to attend local selection meetings;
(d) local selection meetings must provide further information to prospective members and random selection of names from among those still interested must be held;
(e) the random selection must choose 2 members of the Citizens' Assembly for each electoral district for a total of 158 members plus the chair;
(f) the local selection meetings must be facilitated by a person or persons designated by the chair.

2.1 (1) If the chair is satisfied, following the random selection described in section 2 (d) and (e), that the membership of the Citizens' Assembly does not include any persons who are of aboriginal ancestry, the persons described by section 2 (c) who have not been chosen to be members under section 2 (e) must be canvassed to ascertain those who
  (a) remain interested in becoming members, and
  (b) are of aboriginal ancestry.

(2) If subsection (1) applies, 2 further persons must be randomly selected to be members from among the persons ascertained under subsection (1) (a) and (b).

(3) A random selection under subsection (2) must ensure that there will be one male and one femaile members of the Citizens' Assembly of aboriginal ancestry.

(4) Despite section 2 (e), if subsection (2) applies, the Citizens' Assembly shall have 160 members plus the chair. [Section 2.1 amended by OIC 1197, December 11, 2003.]

3 For the purposes of this selection process, the following persons are not eligible to be members of the Citizens' Assembly:

(a) a person who is not a Canadian citizen;

Appendix: Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair (continued)

(b) a person not resident in British Columbia;
(c) a person under the age of 18;
(d) a judge, justice or court referee;
(e) a member or officer of the Parliament of Canada or of the Privy Council of Canada;
(f) a member or officer of the Legislature or of the Executive Council;
(g) an elected member of a local government, including a school board or a park board;
(h) a candidate in the last 2 federal, provincial, municipal or regional district elections;
(i) an official representative or agent of a person identified in paragraph (h);
(j) an immediate family member of a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly;
(k) a current officer or official representative of a registered provincial political party;
(l) a chief or band councillor elected under the Indian Act;
(m) an elected member of a Nisga'a Government as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement.

4 In the event of the death or resignation of any member of the Citizens' Assembly, no replacements may be made until the Assembly's total membership is reduced by 25%. Replacements will then be selected by the chair from the list of unsuccessful candidates at local selection meetings.

5 The chair has administrative responsibility for the Citizens' Assembly and will chair its meetings.

6 Administrative responsibility for the Citizens' Assembly includes, within the budget and other resources provided for the purpose,
(a) selecting the staff needed for the Citizens' Assembly to carry out its terms of reference, and
(b) ensuring that the members of the Citizens' Assembly are provided with the educational resources they require to carry out their duties.

7 The chair may select up to 4 deputy chairs to assist the chair to carry out the duties of the chair.

8 The chair must prepare rules of procedure for the conduct of the business of the Citizens' Assembly and present these rules for adoption by the Citizens' Assembly at its first meeting. These rules must be consistent with
(a) the duties of the chair, and
(b) the terms of reference of the Citizens' Assembly.

Appendix: Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair (continued)

Mandate

The mandate of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform is outlined in the Order-in-Council: Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform Terms of Reference – issued April 28, 2003.

The Terms of Reference which speak most directly to our mandate are the following:

1. The Citizens' Assembly must assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly and issue a report recommending whether the current model for these elections should be retained or another model should be adopted.
2. In carrying out the assessment described in section 1, the Citizens' Assembly must consult with British Columbians and provide British Columbians with the opportunity to make submissions to the Citizens' Assembly in writing, and orally at public meetings.
3. If the Citizens' Assembly recommends under section 1 the adoption of a model for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly that is different from the current model,
   a. the model must be consistent with both the Constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system; and
   b. the model must be described clearly and in detail in its report.
4. The assessment described in section 1 must
   a. be limited to the manner by which voters' ballots are translated into elected members; and
   b. take into account the potential effect of its recommended model on the government, the Legislative Assembly and the political parties.

In addition, the Terms of Reference speak to the Assembly's responsibility to produce a report on its final recommendation.

10. The Citizens' Assembly must present its final version of the report described in section 1 to the Attorney-General no later than December 15, 2004, for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.
11. On presentation of the final version of the report to the Attorney General, the chair may arrange for the publication of the report.

Appendix: Government Decisions

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform Summary of Recommendations

Mandate

Report Recommendation: CA's mandate should be limited to the voting system, i.e. the process by which votes are translated into seats in the Legislative Assembly.
Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: CA should consider potential impact on total political system if electoral system is changed.
Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: If CA recommends a new model, that model must be consistent with the constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system.
Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: If CA recommends a new model, it must recommend only one such model and provide a detailed explanation of it in the final report.
Government Decision: Adopted

Establishment and Reporting

Report Recommendation: CA should be established by specific action of the Legislature (legislation or motion recommending OIC).
Government Decision: Adopted. Establish by OIC and introduce motion in House for approval.

Report Recommendation: CA should table its report with the Speaker.
Government Decision: CA to report to Attorney General, but also have power to publicly release its report at the same time.
Reason for Difference: The CA is, legally, a creature of the government, since it is to be established by executive order, and it must report back to the executive. Further, tabling a report with the Speaker does not automatically make it public; the onus would be placed on the Speaker's Office to do so. The added power given to the CA to publish its own report at the same time as it reports to the Attorney General should fulfill Gibson's desire for a transparent reporting process.

Report Recommendation: CA should report between October and December 2004, to permit sufficient time for debate leading up to a referendum (if needed).
Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation:	CA should be able to issue interim reports and budget requests to a special committee of the Legislature.
Government Decision:	Adopted. re: interim reports, but budget issues to be administered through Ministry of Attorney General/Treasury Board.
Reason for Difference:	Overall budget responsibility for CA resides with Ministry of Attorney General, not with Vote 1 (Legislative Assembly); therefore, not appropriate for a legislative committee to be involved with budget matters.

Selection Process

Report Recommendation:	Provincial voters' list should be used to draw the sample pool of prospective CA members.
Government Decision:	Adopted

Report Recommendation:	Initial random draw of names should be stratified by age, gender and electoral district.
Government Decision:	Adopted

Report Recommendation:	Selection process should be preceded by a publicity campaign for those not on the voters' list to sign up.
Government Decision:	No decision taken

Report Recommendation:	Membership for those initially contacted should not be compulsory.
Government Decision:	Adopted

Report Recommendation:	Facilitated regional selection meetings (average four ridings per meeting) should be convened for those interested; election by peers to raise quality of CA membership.
Government Decision:	Adopted with regional selection meetings, but selection to be by random draw.
Reason for Difference:	Voting by peers introduces an element of electioneering into the process, and moves away from the random model.

Report Recommendation:	One CA member per riding, for a total of 79 (plus the Chair); Chair with power to add up to 21 more members from among those not initially successful, if initial elections are highly unrepresentative.
Government Decision:	Two CA members per riding, for a total of 158 (plus the Chair). No "top-up" power for Chair.
Reason for Difference:	Larger membership pool makes it more likely to be representative of the population, and should remove the need for a "top-up" power.

Appendix: Government Decisions (continued)

Report Recommendation: Chair with reserve power to add up to four members if necessary to meet test of representativeness.

Government Decision: No such power for Chair.

Reason for Difference: Significantly increasing the size of the CA should ensure B.C. demographics are adequately represented.

Eligibility

Report Recommendation: Following persons should be ineligible:

As per portions of Section 3(1) of the Jury Act:

- not a Canadian citizen,
- not resident in British Columbia,
- under the age of majority,
- a member or officer of the Parliament of Canada or of the Privy Council of Canada,
- a member or officer of the Legislature or of the Executive Council,
- a judge, justice or court referee,
- a person convicted within the previous 5 years, or currently under charge, for an indictable offence.

In addition:

- candidates for membership in the Legislative Assembly at the last general election, or
- immediate family members of such candidates, or of sitting MLAs.

Government Decision: Substantially adopted, with some changes.

Those charged with or convicted of an indictable offence are now eligible.

Others have been added to the list of partisan interests to be excluded:

- a member of a local government, including a school board or a park board,
- candidates in the last two federal, provincial, municipal or regional district elections,
- official representatives or agents of candidates mentioned above,
- current officers or official representatives of registered provincial political parties,
- chiefs and band councillors elected pursuant to the Indian Act and elected members of Nisga'a Lisims Government.

Reason for Difference: There are important differences between serving on a jury and being a member of the CA. Accused and convicted persons are ineligible for jury duty because of real or possible biases that could result in an unfair trial for another accused. They can, however, participate in the electoral process and vote in elections.

Offenders who are incarcerated will be unable to participate on the CA. Those under charge are considered innocent until proven guilty.

The list of those ineligible based on involvement in politics has been significantly expanded, to ensure that, as far as possible, the CA is made up of individuals without direct ties to organizations with a vested interest in the outcome.

Chairperson

Report Recommendation: Chairperson should be appointed by all-party committee of the Legislature.

Government Decision: Chairperson to be nominated by government. Appointment to be endorsed by recommendation of an all-party special committee of the Legislature following a meeting with the nominee.

Reason for Difference: Cross-party support for the Chairperson is important, as it will indicate that the selection is non-partisan and enhance the position's credibility. However, the timelines associated with a full special committee selection process are significant (two to three months). The proposed endorsement by a special committee is time-efficient and transparent.

Report Recommendation: Chairperson's role, responsibilities and remuneration:

- non-voting member of CA, with casting vote in the event of a tie,
- to chair meetings and retain overall administrative responsibility for the CA,
- empowered to make decisions on procedure,
- may select and supervise staff,
- may select up to four vice-chairs,
- to receive salary equal to that of Chief Provincial Court Judge.

Government Decision: Adopted

CA Procedures

Report Recommendations: Decisions of the CA may be made by simple majority.

Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendations: The CA should be able to expel a member, for cause as defined by the CA, by a two-thirds majority vote.

Government Decision: Adopted

Appendix: Government Decisions (continued)

Report Recommendation: No replacements should be made for members who withdraw or are expelled until vacancies reach 25 per cent of total membership.

Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: CA should be required to consult with British Columbia by holding public hearings.

Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: CA members' expenses should be reimbursed, and they should receive an honorarium of $150 per meeting day.

Government Decision: Adopted

Report Recommendation: Gibson recommends a budget of $4.5 million.
Government Decision: Current estimates are for a budget of $5.5 million.
Reason for Difference: Doubling the size of the CA membership to 158 is the reason for the estimated increase.

Appendix: History of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was a unique initiative. Nowhere else in the world had such power over an electoral system been given to non-elected citizens.

The premier of B.C., Gordon Campbell, promised in 2001 that, if elected, his government would establish such an Assembly.

Here's what happened after that:

- Sept. 20, 2002: The new provincial government took its first step towards creating the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform by appointing Gordon Gibson to develop recommendations on how the assembly should function and be structured.
- December 23, 2002: Gordon Gibson submitted his Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.
- April 28, 2003: The government announced it would introduce a motion in the Legislature to establish the Assembly. That same day, the government nominated Dr. Jack Blaney as the chair of the assembly. And Attorney General Geoff Plant tabled the Assembly's Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair.
- April 29, 2003: The Attorney General gave the required notice of motion to the Legislature to create the Assembly.
- April 30, 2003: The Attorney General formally asked the House to support the creation of the Assembly. The motion was unanimously approved. A special committee of the legislature was set up: Its terms of reference authorize it to review Assembly staff appointments, and to receive interim reports from the Assembly chair on the progress of the Assembly's work.
- May 8, 2003: Jack Blaney is confirmed as Chair of the Citizens' Assembly.
- July 4, 2003: A Director of Operations for the Assembly is appointed.
- July 2003: Voters List Registration Drive began.
- July 28, 2003: A Chief Research Officer for the Assembly is appointed.
- August 22, 2003: Voters List Registration Drive concluded.
- August 29, 2003: Chief Electoral Officer of Elections BC, delivers 15,800 randomly selected names from British Columbia's voters list to the Citizens' Assembly. These names formed the pool of potential members for the member-selection process.
- September 24, 2003: A Director and Associate Director of Communication are confirmed.
- October 14, 2003: The first four members were selected at a meeting in Fort St. John. (Sadly, one of the four died before taking office, and another member was drawn in his place.) Another 25 selection meetings then followed, throughout B.C.

Appendix: History of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform (continued)

- November 7, 2003: First meeting of Research Program Working Group. A group of political scientists and community advisors met with the Assembly's research and education team to provide suggestions on the Assembly's phases.
- November 25, 2003: Five Vancouver members were selected, bringing the total to 157. Only one member (from Vancouver-Kingsway) remained to be selected.
- December 8, 2003: The 158th member was selected.
- December 10, 2003: The provincial cabinet approved the addition of two Aboriginal members, also selected from the random pool.
- December 22, 2003: The two Aboriginal members were selected, bringing the membership to 160. (Dr. Blaney is the 161st.)
- January 10-11, 2004: The Assembly began its "Learning Phase" meetings, six weekends in January-March 2004. Meetings were held at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, 580 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, and were open to the public. (For its subsequent calendar and archive of events, click here.)
- March 21, 2004: The Assembly issued a "Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia".
- May 3, 2004: The Assembly began, in Vancouver, the first of 50 open public hearings, in communities large and small, all over B.C. (Here is the schedule of the meetings.)
- June 24, 2004: The Assembly held the last of its 50 public hearings, in Kelowna.
- June 26-27, 2004: The Assembly met in Prince George to review and discuss what members heard from British Columbians in the hearings and in written submissions, and to plan their fall sessions. The meeting was open to the public.
- July – August 2004: Members took a summer "reading break", with homework that included some 1,600 written submissions from the public to study.
- September 11, 2004: The Assembly began its "Deliberation Phase", six weekends of meetings at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver. Plenary sessions were open to the public. Nine plenary presentations were made, of the best presentations made at one of the public hearings.
- September 27, 2004: The last date for making written submissions to the Assembly. In all, 1603 submissions were received.
- October 23, 2004: Assembly members decided that, if they were to propose a new electoral system to the people of B.C., it would be a made-in-B.C. Single Transferable Vote (STV) model.

Appendix: History of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform (continued)

- October 24, 2004: Members decided to recommend to the voters of B.C. that they replace the current First Past the Post electoral system with the Assembly's BC-STV model.
- November 13-14 and 27-28, 2004: Final meetings of the Assembly, in Vancouver. On November 27, the members fine-tuned their BC-STV Recommendation, and drafted their Final Report. And on November 28 they ended their work, and prepared to disband.
- December 10, 2004: The Assembly submitted its final report and recommendation to the people and government of British Columbia.

Closing phase

- December 15-31, 2004: Citizens' Assembly and office concludes its work.

Referendum

- May 17, 2005: B.C.'s voters cast ballots in a referendum on the Assembly's recommendation, as part of the provincial general election.

Appendix: Committees

Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

Terms of Reference

That a Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform be appointed and authorized:

(1) to review the nomination of Jack Blaney as chair of the Citizens' Assembly and to report to the Legislative Assembly whether the Special Committee unanimously endorses the said nomination;

(2) to review the chair's subsequent selections of senior staff of the Citizens' Assembly and to report to the Legislative Assembly whether the Special Committee unanimously endorses the said selections: and

(3) to receive interim reports from the chair of the Citizens' Assembly on the progress of the Citizens' Assembly's work.

The Special Committee so appointed shall have the powers of a Select Standing Committee and is also empowered:

(a) to appoint of their number one or more sub-committees and to refer to such sub-committees any of the matters referred to the Committee;

(b) to sit during a period in which the House is adjourned, during the recess after prorogation until the next following Session and during any sitting of the House;

(c) to adjourn from place to place as may be convenient; and

(d) to retain personnel as required to assist the Committee;

and shall report to the House on the matters referred to the Committee as soon as possible or following any adjournment, or at the next following Session, as the case may be; to deposit the original of its reports with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly during a period of adjournment and upon resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present all reports to the Legislative Assembly.

Membership

Hon. John Les (Chair)
Jeff Bray (Deputy Chair)
Hon. Ida Chong
Kevin Krueger
Blair Lekstrom
Joy MacPhail
Rob Nijjar

Appendix: Committees (continued)

The committee was reappointed on March 04, 2004.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On March 4, 2004, the Hon. Gary Collins moved that a Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform be appointed and authorized to receive reports from the chair of the Citizens' Assembly on the progress of the Citizens' Assembly's work.

The Special Committee so appointed shall have the powers of a Select Standing Committee and is also empowered:

(a) to appoint of their number one or more sub-committees and to refer to such sub-committees any of the matters referred to the Committee;
(b) to sit during a period in which the House is adjourned, during the recess after prorogation until the next following Session and during any sitting of the House;
(c) to adjourn from place to place as may be convenient; and
(d) to retain personnel as required to assist the Committee;

and shall report to the House on the matters referred to the Committee as soon as possible or following any adjournment, or at the next following Session, as the case may be; to deposit the original of its reports with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly during a period of adjournment and upon resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present all reports to the Legislative Assembly.

MEMBERSHIP

The said Special Committee is to be composed of: Mr. Bray (Convener), Messrs. Krueger, Lekstrom, and Nijjar, and Mmes. Brenzinger, MacPhail and Reid.

Appendix: Committees (continued)

Research Program Working Group

Terms of Reference

1. To provide feedback on the Research Groups' activity and program planning.
2. To provide an external monitoring of public response to the Citizens' Assembly.
3. To be prepared for responding to media requests for commentary on CA activity.
4. To be available as possible chairs for the public meetings planned for Phase 2.
5. To provide detailed technical advice on issues concerning the design of electoral systems as required.
6. To act as a review panel for research on the Assembly.

Membership

Community	G. Gibson
University of Victoria	A. Eisenberg N. Ruff
Simon Fraser University	L. Erickson A. Heard D. McArthur K. Stewart
University of British Columbia	R. Johnston D. Blake F. Cutler
Université de Montréal	A. Blais
Elections BC	Linda Johnson
Citizens' Assembly	R.K. Carty (Chair) J. Blaney C. Sharman L. Perra S. Haas (recording secretary)

Appendix: External Support

The following consultants made presentations to the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.

David Baxter
    Futurist, Urban Futures Institute, Vancouver, BC

André Blais
    Canada Research Chair in Electoral Studies, Université de Montréal, Montreal

David Farrell
    Jean Monnet Chair of European Politics, University of Manchester, Great Britain

Michael Fogel
    Mediator and Negotiator with the Justice Institute of BC, Vancouver, BC

Elizabeth McLeay
    Associate Professor in Comparative Politics, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Lisa Young
    Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary, Calgary

The following consultants made presentations to Assembly staff.

Charles Holmes
    Facilitator and founder of Simon Fraser University's Learning Strategies Group

Steven Rosell
    Policy analyst to government and a dialogue consultant and facilitator with Viewpoint Learning, Inc., La Jolla, CA

Glenn Sigurdson
    Mediator, facilitator and instructor in the Graduate Business Program Simon Fraser University in Vancouver and a Fellow of the Morris J. Wosk Center for Dialogue

Doug Strachan
    Media and communications training facilitator

Barry Stuart
    Lawyer, mediator, consensus facilitator, and policy analyst to government

Appendix: Website Design

Public website (www.citizensassembly.bc.ca)

First level:	Links immediately visible on opening the home page
Second level:	Links visible on clicking on first-level links, or material reached from first-level link
Other levels:	Further content reached by clicking on second-level and deeper links

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
CA IN ACTION	Introduction to the CA	Links to selection process, Jack Blaney bio, and Elections BC (voter registration)	
	FAQs	38 separate pages of info	Contact and back-to-index links
	Message from chair	Chair Bio	Links to outside pages re: Jack Blaney, and to his opening speech to Assembly
	Assembly Members	Index of all CA members by name and community, sortable by alpha or community	160 separate pages, each with a member biography and photo
	CA staff	Index of nine staff names	9 pages, each with bio, photo and contact info
	History of CA	History timeline	Numerous links to BC government documents and webpages, and Assembly pages
	Legislative committee	Introduction	Links to the committee's webpages
	The process	Selection	Intro, with links to Assembly, BC Government and ElectionsBC pages; contact info
		Learning	Intro, including links to CA webpages, and Preliminary Statement to the People of B.C.
		Public hearings	Intro, with links to CA webpages
		Deliberation	Intro, with links to CA and other webpages
		Timeline	Date-by-date timeline, with link to CA Calendar
	CA reports	Official Records of CA Proceedings, and Preliminary Statement (in four languages)	CA history page

Appendix: Web Design (continued)

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
NEWS & EVENTS	Latest news	News releases, news items from media, latest news from CA	News archive, newsletter subscription form
	Events calendar	Coming events re: Assembly, staff and members	Events calendar archive
	CA Newsletter	Current and past newsletter	Subscribe/unsubscribe to newsletter
	Media Room	Next meetings; news releases	
		Media Contacts	
		Resources	CA fact sheets, Recommended Reading, Links Page, Learning handouts, audio/video, Member Index, Photo gallery
	Photo Gallery	Four pages, each of four photos; contact info	Members' photos, staff photos

Appendix: Web Design (continued)

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
LEARNING RESOURCES	Introduction	Overview of learning phase, CA fact sheets	Wosk Centre webpage
	Learning materials	Intro, CA fact sheets, Other Links, Educational Resources	
	Week 1	Handouts, presentations, agenda	
	Week 2	Handouts, presentations, agenda	
	Week 3	Handouts, presentations, agenda	
	Week 4	Handouts, presentations, agenda	
	Week 5	Handouts, presentations, agenda	Guest speakers' webpages
	Week 6	Agenda	Preliminary Statement to the People of B.C.
	Audio and Video	Audio and video material from Learning and Deliberation Weekends	Knowledge Network videos; free downloads of viewer software
	Electoral maps of BC	79 maps on ElectionsBC website	
	Other links	Electoral and related sites worldwide	Contact info, invitation to nominate links, link to submissions
	Recommended reading	CA fact sheets, books, reports, submissions, overview of public hearings, summaries of presentations, list of presenters, news releases	
	Educational Resources	School materials	Intro with links to CA pages, lesson plans, teaching material, and sites of interest to teachers and students
	Glossary	Separate pages defining 132 terms.	Also available as single MSWord or PDF documents

Appendix: Web Design (continued)

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
GET INVOLVED	Intro with links	Learning materials, Preliminary Statement to People of B.C., submissions, info from public hearings, and more	
	Important dates	Timeline and link to CA calendar	
	Make a submission	Intro with link to 1,603 online submissions	
	View submissions	Index of 1,603 public submissions, and guides thereto	The 1,603 submissions, indexed and searchable
	Make a Presentation	Intro with links to presentations and submissions	
	View Presentations	Intro with index to presentations made at 50 public hearings	Summaries of presentations indexed by presenter's name

Other links on all page templates

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
HOME			
CONTACT US	Office address, numbers, mailto		
SEARCH	XML content fully searchable		
SITEMAP	Schematic sitemap		
PRIVACY POLICY	Privacy Policy, Copyright Policy, Warranty Disclaimer, and Internet Accessibility Standards	Contact info, request form, links to B.C. government policy statements and Internet protocols	
"COOKIE CRUMBS" (SHOWING ROUTE TAKEN TO CURRENT PAGE)			

Appendix: Web Design (continued)

Members' website (www.myassembly.ca)

First level:	Links immediately visible on opening the home page
Second level:	Links visible on clicking on first-level links, or material reached from first-level link
Other levels:	Further content reached by clicking on second-level and deeper links

In addition to the entire content of the public site (as above) the members' website also offered:

FIRST LEVEL	SECOND LEVEL	THIRD LEVEL	FOURTH LEVEL
THE CA	Services for members	Links to communication toolkits, key messages, educational material and more	
		Inquiries	Mailto form to CA office
		Suggestion Box	Mailto form to CA office
		Policies	Links to CA policy and procedural documents
NEWS & EVENTS	Members' newsletters		
DISCUSSION FORUM	Access to private Discussion Forum for members and CA staff	Numerous threads on electoral issues, CA process, and more	
PUBLIC WEBSITE	Homepage of the public website		

Appendix: Elections BC

ELECTIONS
Province of British Columbia

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Selection of Members

This document outlines the approach to be used for the selection of members for the Citizens' Assembly. It includes an overview of the requirements established in the terms of reference for the Citizens' Assembly, reviews the general procedures, and identifies issues in relation to the selection process. This document focuses on the creation and use of selection lists, and does not address administrative matters in relation to conducting briefing sessions, nor does it address potential challenges in locating and retaining appropriate members of the Assembly. This document also forms the contract between Elections BC and the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform for the production of selection files.

Background

The terms of reference for the Citizens' Assembly establish that the membership "…is to be broadly representative of the adult population of British Columbia, particularly respecting age, gender and geographical distribution." In order to achieve this goal, the duties of the Chair as described in the terms of reference specify the following:

"The selection process for the creation of the Citizens' Assembly must therefore include the following steps:

(a) with the approval and under the supervision of the chief electoral officer, a stratified sample of names must be drawn at random from the provincial voters' list according to the following criteria:
  (i) an equal number of names must be drawn for each of the 79 provincial electoral districts;
  (ii) an equal number of men's and women's names must be drawn;
  (iii) the names drawn must reflect the age distribution of the provincial population aged 18 and over;

(b) those persons whose names are drawn and who are not ineligible for participation must be invited to indicate whether they are interested in becoming a member of the Citizens' Assembly;

(c) interested persons must be invited to attend local selection meetings;

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Selection of Members

(d) local selection meetings must provide further information to prospective members and random selection of names from among those still interested must be held;

(e) the random selection must choose 2 members of the Citizens' Assembly for each electoral district for a total of 158 members plus the chair;

(f) the local selection meetings must be facilitated by a person or persons designated by the chair."

Access to the personal information held by the Chief Electoral Officer in the voters list is restricted by the *Election Act*. To enable the use of voters list data for the purpose of selection of members for the Citizens' Assembly, a Regulation was required. On May 13, 2003, following consultation with the Election Advisory Committee, the Chief Electoral Officer made the Citizens' Assembly Selection Lists Regulation. This Regulation, deposited as B.C. Reg. 193/2003, specifies that the personal information contained in the Provincial List of Voters may be used to provide one or more selection lists to the Chair of the Citizens' Assembly, and establishes authority for the Chair to use the selection lists to identify and contact potential members of the Citizens' Assembly. The personal information contained in the selection lists may not be used for any other purpose.

Procedures

The credibility of the selection process is critical to the success of the Citizens' Assembly. The process must be open, transparent and neutral. Selection must be random, but gender parity and appropriate age stratification are essential components in a representative Assembly. As required in the terms of reference, Elections BC will prepare selection lists for the Chair that ensure even gender distribution and reflect the statistical stratification by age for the residents of each electoral district in the province. Geographic distribution will be achieved by creating selection files based on provincial electoral districts. No further criteria, such as ethnicity, will be used in the production of selection files. (It should be noted that the provincial voters list does not contain data regarding ethnicity, therefore ethnicity may only be inferred by name and geographic location in combination with Statistics Canada data.)

Elections BC will acquire, via BC Stats, data from Statistics Canada which provides information regarding Canadian citizens by age on an electoral district basis. This statistical data, combined with the birth date and gender data contained in the voters list, will enable Elections BC to provide a randomly selected list of individuals for each electoral district stratified by age group and representing an equal gender split. The requirement for BC Stats' advisory resources will be limited to a review of the random sampling method to be used.

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Selection of Members

It is proposed that the records be randomly selected by age group, and that the following age groups be used: 18 – 24, 25 – 39, 40 – 55, 56 – 70, and 70+. It should be noted that the 18 – 24 group has been narrowly focused to ensure inclusion, as this group is historically under-represented on the voters list and may not be adequately covered through random selection of a larger age range.

It is anticipated that 200 records for each of the 79 electoral districts will provide an adequate pool from which to draw potential members, and that random selection will provide a reasonable cross-section of the population reflecting an appropriate mix of ethnicity, education and economic status. The files will be produced on a CD, and will be sortable by each data field. Records will include electoral district, voter's name, date of birth, gender and mailing address. The files may be used with a mail-merge option to produce addressed correspondence or mailing labels. The data may also be imported into an ACCESS database for logging responses, scheduling briefings, etc.

Once the selection files have been provided to the Chair, Elections BC's role in the selection process is complete. The staff of the Citizens' Assembly will send a letter outlining the role of the Citizens' Assembly, the remuneration and timetable, and the eligibility criteria for participation as a member. If insufficient individuals from any age group express interest in being considered for membership, secondary selection lists may be obtained from Elections BC to maintain the necessary age and gender stratification.

Elections BC will attach a sequence code to each record to identify to the Chair the following data: electoral district, gender, age, age group, sequence number of random selection within age group and the percentage of individuals in that age group required to reflect the age stratification of the electoral district. Such a sequence number will facilitate the sorting of responses and assist in identifying the positive responders from each age group who should be invited to the subsequent briefing sessions.

The briefing may include a review of the participation qualifications, the mandate of the Citizens' Assembly, the Chair's expectations of the members, the timetable and remuneration. The individuals attending the briefing will be given an opportunity to withdraw from consideration at that time. Of the remaining individuals, the Chair has determined that one male and one female will be selected randomly from each electoral district for membership on the Citizens' Assembly.

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Selection of Members

Issues

The terms of reference establish that "for the purposes of this selection process, the following persons are not eligible to be members of the Citizens' Assembly:

(a) a person who is not a Canadian citizen;
(b) a person not resident in British Columbia;
(c) a person under the age of 18;
(d) a judge, justice or court referee;
(e) a member or officer of the Parliament of Canada or of the Privy Council of Canada;
(f) a member or officer of the Legislature or of the Executive Council;
(g) an elected member of a local government, including a school board or a park board;
(h) a candidate in the last 2 federal, provincial, municipal or regional district elections;
(i) an official representative or agent of a person identified in paragraph (h);
(j) an immediate family member of a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly;
(k) a current officer or official representative of a registered provincial political party;
(l) a chief or band councillor elected under the Indian Act;
(m) an elected member of a Nisga'a Government as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement."

Canadian citizenship and having attained the age of eighteen are qualifications for voter registration, therefore Elections BC is able to exclude individuals who do not meet those eligibility criteria. Residency for the purposes of voter registration is defined in the *Election Act*, and does not require physical presence in BC if the individual considers their absence from the province to be temporary and intends to return to BC in the future. The Chair has determined that a more literal definition of resident should be used for the purposes of selecting members of the Citizens' Assembly. Members must live in the Province throughout the mandate of the Assembly. Further, fluency in written and oral English and the availability to attend meetings and devote the necessary time are considered to be eligibility criteria by the Chair.

Elections BC is unable to filter the voters list on the basis of the other exclusion criteria, and it is therefore possible that the random selection files provided to the Chair will include individuals who are not eligible for membership on the Citizens' Assembly. Citizens' Assembly staff will include the exclusion criteria in the letters sent to potential members so they may advise the Chair regarding their eligibility.

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Selection of Members

The selection files will contain a total of 15,800 names (200 names for each of the 79 electoral districts). The size of the file may create difficulties for a small administrative staff in managing the mail-out and logging responses. BC Mail Plus may be consulted regarding provision of mail preparation services to mitigate demands on the Citizens' Assembly staff.

There remains the potential that the random selection of two registered voters from each electoral district will not result in a statistically representative age stratification desired of the Citizens' Assembly. However, the measures described above are designed to provide the best possible representation while maintaining the principles of random selection and freedom for invited individuals to decline participation on the Assembly.

Due to the high mobility of the population, particularly among some age groups, it is possible that some recipients of initial notices will no longer be resident in the electoral district for which the sample file was created. Care must be taken to verify the current electoral district of residency of responders to ensure that appropriate representation of each electoral district is achieved. To determine eligibility for representation for an electoral district, the home and/or permanent address of interested individuals must be within the electoral district. This policy will accommodate individuals such as students and workers who are temporarily relocated for study or employment. The Chair has determined that once selected, members of the Assembly who subsequently move to a different electoral district will continue to serve as members.

The terms of reference state that, "In the event of the death or resignation of any member of the Citizens' Assembly, no replacements may be made until the Assembly's total membership is reduced by 25%. Replacements will then be selected by the chair from the list of unsuccessful candidates at local selection meetings." It will therefore be necessary to retain selection records, including gender and age data, for the full mandate of the Citizens' Assembly to facilitate the replacement process.

A test file of data fields and formats for evaluation purposes will be provided to the Chair no later than July 31st. In order to provide adequate time to prepare the initial mailing, receive and process responses, contact individuals for attendance at briefing sessions, conduct the sessions and select the members by December 2003, it will be necessary to produce the selection files by the end of August 2003. A test file with data samples will be provided by Elections BC to the Chair by August 22nd, with the final selection files provided on August 29th.

Budget

The budget established for the Citizens' Assembly for the selection of members includes an allocation of $3,000 for Elections BC's time, and $5,000 for BC Stats data and

Appendix: Elections BC (continued)

sampling advice. As an extension of an existing agreement, Elections BC will work with BC Stats and obtain the data and advice necessary to perform accurate age stratification for each of the 79 electoral districts, and to ensure that an appropriate random sampling methodology is employed.

Following the provision of the selection lists, Elections BC will submit a journal voucher for the Citizens' Assembly to recover costs. These costs will be limited to the provision of necessary services and computer processing associated with creating the randomly selected list of 15,800 names agreed to in this document. It is agreed that these costs shall not exceed $8,000 total. If additional selection files are required to ensure sufficient individuals are available for inclusion in briefing sessions, the files will be provided to the Chair upon request at no additional cost.

Terms of Agreement

It is agreed that Elections BC shall provide a selection file as described in this document for each electoral district in British Columbia to the Chair of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform on or before August 29, 2003. The personal information contained in the selection files may only be used by the Chair for the purpose of identifying and contacting potential members of the Citizens' Assembly.

Harry Neufeld
Chief Electoral Officer
Province of British Columbia

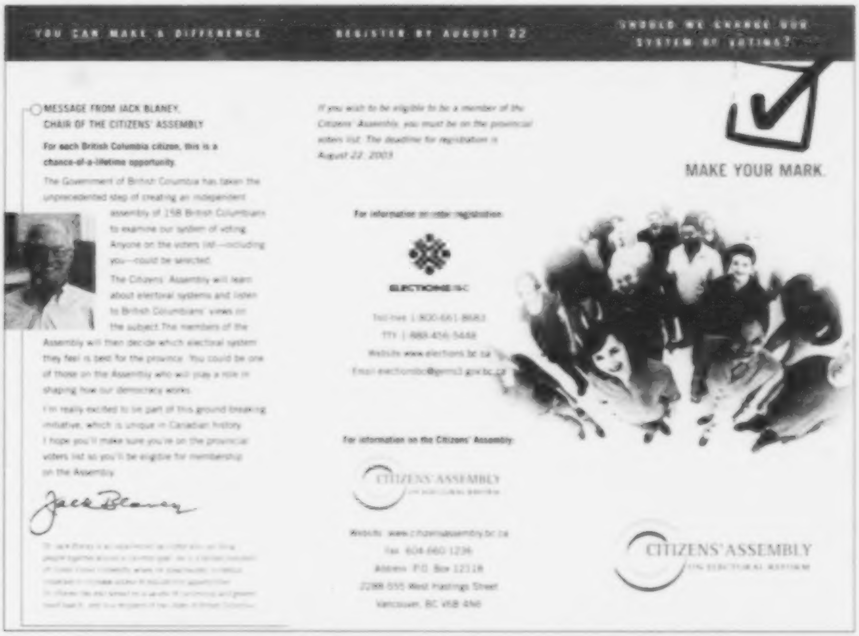
Date

Dr. Jack Blaney
Chair
Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

Date

Prepared by: Linda M. Johnson, July 10, 2003

Appendix: Householder Mail-out



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

REGISTER BY AUGUST 22

SHOULD WE CHANGE OUR SYSTEM OF VOTING?

MESSAGE FROM JACK BLANEY, CHAIR OF THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

For each British Columbia citizen, this is a chance-of-a-lifetime opportunity.

The Government of British Columbia has taken the unprecedented step of creating an independent assembly of 158 British Columbians to examine our system of voting. Anyone on the voters list—including you—could be selected.

The Citizens' Assembly will learn about electoral systems and listen to British Columbians' views on the subject. The members of the Assembly will then decide which electoral system they feel is best for the province. You could be one of those on the Assembly who will play a role in shaping how our democracy works.

I'm really excited to be part of this ground breaking initiative, which is unique in Canadian history. I hope you'll make sure you're on the provincial voters list so you'll be eligible for membership on the Assembly.

Jack Blaney

If you wish to be eligible to be a member of the Citizens' Assembly, you must be on the provincial voters list. The deadline for registration is August 22, 2003.

For information on voter registration:

ELECTIONS BC

Toll-free 1-800-661-8683
TTY 1-888-456-5448
Website www.elections.bc.ca
Email electionsbc@gems3.gov.bc.ca

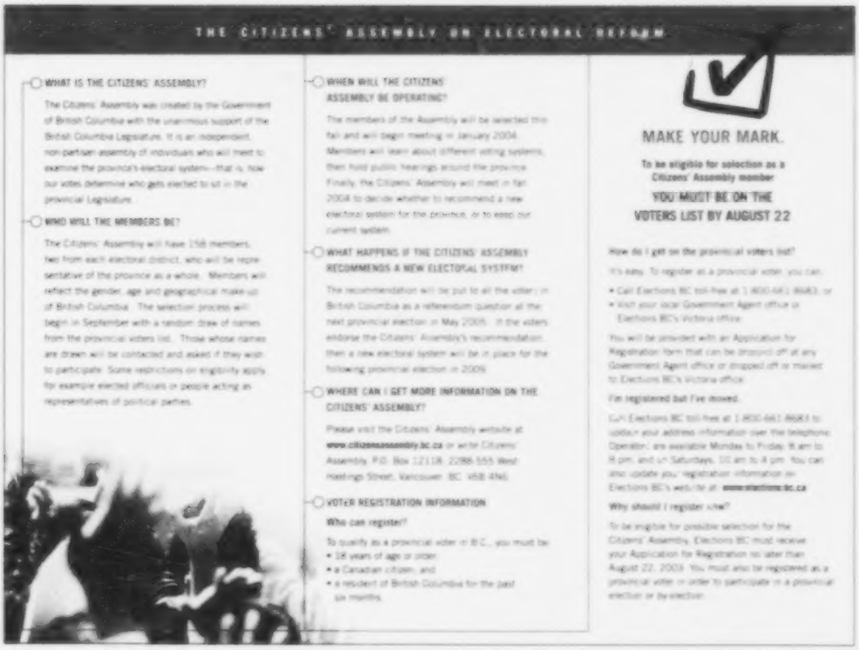
For information on the Citizens' Assembly:

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Website: www.citizensassembly.bc.ca
Fax: 604-660-1236
Address: P.O. Box 12118
2288-555 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6

MAKE YOUR MARK.

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM



THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM

WHAT IS THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY?

The Citizens' Assembly was created by the Government of British Columbia with the unanimous support of the British Columbia Legislature. It is an independent, non-partisan assembly of individuals who will meet to examine the province's electoral system—that is, how our votes determine who gets elected to sit in the provincial Legislature.

WHO WILL THE MEMBERS BE?

The Citizens' Assembly will have 158 members, two from each electoral district, who will be representative of the province as a whole. Members will reflect the gender, age and geographical make-up of British Columbia. The selection process will begin in September with a random draw of names from the provincial voters list. Those whose names are drawn will be contacted and asked if they wish to participate. Some restrictions on eligibility apply, for example elected officials or people acting as representatives of political parties.

WHEN WILL THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY BE OPERATING?

The members of the Assembly will be selected this fall and will begin meeting in January 2004. Members will learn about different voting systems, then hold public hearings around the province. Finally, the Citizens' Assembly will meet in fall 2004 to decide whether to recommend a new electoral system for the province, or to keep our current system.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS A NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM?

The recommendation will be put to all the voters in British Columbia as a referendum question at the next provincial election in May 2005. If the voters endorse the Citizens' Assembly's recommendation, then a new electoral system will be in place for the following provincial election in 2009.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ON THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY?

Please visit the Citizens' Assembly website at **www.citizensassembly.bc.ca** or write Citizens' Assembly, P.O. Box 12118, 2288-555 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Who can register?

To qualify as a provincial voter in B.C., you must be:
- 18 years of age or older,
- a Canadian citizen, and
- a resident of British Columbia for the past six months.

MAKE YOUR MARK.

To be eligible for selection as a Citizens' Assembly member

YOU MUST BE ON THE VOTERS LIST BY AUGUST 22

How do I get on the provincial voters list?

It's easy. To register as a provincial voter, you can:
- Call Elections BC toll-free at 1-800-661-8683, or
- Visit your local Government Agent office or Elections BC's Victoria office.

You will be provided with an Application for Registration form that can be dropped off at any Government Agent office or dropped off or mailed to Elections BC's Victoria office.

I'm registered but I've moved.

Call Elections BC toll-free at 1-800-661-8683 to update your address information over the telephone. Operators are available Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm, and on Saturdays, 10 am to 4 pm. You can also update your registration information on Elections BC's website at **www.elections.bc.ca**

Why should I register now?

To be eligible for possible selection for the Citizens' Assembly, Elections BC must receive your Application for Registration no later than August 22, 2003. You must also be registered as a provincial voter in order to participate in a provincial election or by-election.

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications

The following documents were all used at different stages of the Selection Phase. Those documents listed in bold are reproduced in this section.

Citizens' Assembly initial letter

Initial fact sheet

Initial reply form

1st Nations letter to invitees

Selection meeting invitation letter

Selection meeting reply form

Selection meeting information package

Thank you letter to selection meeting attendees

Thank you letter to declines

Thank you letter to interested parties, but not invited

Welcome letter to selected members

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Initial Letter

LOGO
ADDRESS
DATE

Electoral District:

Name
Address

Dear >>>>>,

I am pleased to ask you to consider doing something very special for British Columbia.

Our province is making history by inviting citizens to shape the democratic process in B.C. A **Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform** is being formed to review our electoral system – how votes determine seats in the provincial Legislature. The Citizens' Assembly will be independent and non-partisan.

This is your opportunity to get involved in deciding if British Columbians should change the way we vote representatives into office in Victoria. By replying to this letter, you could be a member of this Citizens' Assembly.

You are one of 200 people randomly chosen by Elections BC from all the voters in your riding (electoral district), Nelson-Creston. By replying to this letter, your name will be put into a pool for your electoral district. Twenty people will be randomly selected from this pool and invited to a regional information meeting (in Castlegar from 7:00 – 10:00 PM on October 29, 2003 At that meeting, two people from each electoral district – one man and one woman – will be selected for membership on the Citizens' Assembly. Travel costs for the selection meeting will be covered.

In this way, 158 randomly selected British Columbians will become the members of the Citizens' Assembly. The Citizens' Assembly will meet a number of times during 2004 to review our current and other electoral systems. And, if the members recommend a change in our voting system, they will draft a referendum question on this issue for the next provincial election.

In the following pages you will find out more about the Citizens' Assembly and how its members will be chosen. As you read, ask yourself if you want to participate in this opportunity. Also ask yourself if you are eligible for membership. Eligibility requirements are on page 3 of the information sheets.

Please note: to be a part of this extraordinary project, you must **confirm your interest and eligibility to our office by October 7, 2003.** A response form and postage-paid envelope are enclosed.

I urge you to think about Citizens' Assembly membership. This will be public service at its best.

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

The Citizens' Assembly will be active from January through November 2004. There will be 11 weekend meetings in Vancouver. These meetings will be held on Saturdays and Sundays to accommodate the schedules of as many people as possible.

In addition, the Citizens' Assembly will hold public hearings around the province to listen to the views of British Columbians. Members will be expected to participate in a few of these public hearings.

Members will also be responsible for reading and then discussing the materials provided for these meetings – as well as keeping in touch with other members to share ideas and opinions.

What will the Citizens' Assembly do?

After the 158 members are selected, there will be three phases to the Citizens' Assembly:

- **Learning:** Members will learn about our current electoral system and other electoral systems used around the world.
- **Public Hearings:** Will be held during the spring throughout the province for members to hear what their fellow citizens have to say about electoral reform.
- **Deliberation:** The Citizens' Assembly will decide whether our current electoral system should be changed and, if so, make a recommendation for a new system.

The Citizens' Assembly will report its recommendation to the Attorney General and to the people of British Columbia by December 2004. If the current electoral system is supported by the Citizens' Assembly, that will bring the Assembly's work to a close.

If the Citizens' Assembly suggests a change, its report will describe the pros and cons of both our current system and the recommended system, explaining why the new system is preferred. The Citizens' Assembly will also frame the referendum question on this issue for the May 2005 provincial election.

Learning	**Public Hearings**	**Deliberation**	**Final Recommendation**
Jan – Mar 2004	**May – June 2004**	**Sept – Nov 2004**	**Dec 2004**
January 10 – 11 January 24 – 25 February 7 – 8 February 21 – 22 March 6 – 7 March 20 – 21	To be scheduled.	September 11 – 12 September 25 – 26 October 16 – 17 October 23 – 24 November 13 – 14	Citizens' Assembly members submit a report of their recommendation on British Columbia's electoral system.
In Vancouver	Across B.C.	In Vancouver	

Vancouver meetings will be held at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, a unique meeting facility that is ideal for the work of the Citizens' Assembly.

Who is eligible to be a member?

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Initial Fact Sheet

Since members of the Citizens' Assembly will work as a group, they must be:

- fully fluent in English – able to understand, speak, read and write the English language;
- able to engage in a process of learning about electoral systems;
- willing to interact with fellow members and be open to the opinions of others; and
- available to attend meetings and devote the time necessary to fully engage in the process.

Since members of the Citizens' Assembly will represent British Columbians, they must be:

- living in the electoral district to which this letter was sent;
- living in British Columbia until the Assembly work concludes in December 2004; and
- able to attend the selection meeting scheduled for his or her electoral district.

Members who move *within* British Columbia during 2004 will maintain their membership in the Citizens' Assembly.

To ensure that the Citizens' Assembly reflects the views of voters and is as free of bias as possible, the following people are **not** eligible to serve:

a. a person who is not a Canadian citizen;
b. a person not resident in British Columbia;
c. a person under the age of 18;
d. a judge, justice or court referee;
e. a member or officer of the Parliament of Canada or of the Privy Council of Canada;
f. a member or officer of the Legislature or of the Executive Council;
g. an elected member of a local government, including a school board or a park board;
h. a candidate in the last 2 federal, provincial, municipal or regional district elections;
i. an official representative or agent of a person identified in paragraph (h);
j. an immediate family member of a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly;
k. a current officer or official representative of a registered provincial political party;
l. a chief or band councillor elected under the Indian Act;
m. an elected member of a Nisga'a Government as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement.

How are members compensated?

Involvement in the Citizens' Assembly is completely voluntary and is an excellent opportunity for public service. To recognise their efforts, members will receive an honorarium of $150 per meeting day. As well, the cost of travel, food and accommodation for Citizens' Assembly work will be covered – based on Government of British Columbia rates.

As meetings in Vancouver will be held in the downtown area, members will be accommodated at a nearby hotel.

In addition, arrangements can be made for those who are interested and eligible to serve on the Assembly, but who have special needs – such as people with child care responsibilities or who require physical assistance.

How can I get more information?

Please visit our website at www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. Information online is updated regularly. You can also find on our website government documents such as:

- *Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform*, which formed the structure of the Citizens' Assembly; and

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Initial Fact Sheet

- *Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair*, which is the basis for the process of the Citizens' Assembly.

If you do not have access to the Internet and would like more information or copies of these publications, please contact the office of the Citizens' Assembly:

By letter: 2288–555 West Hastings Street
PO Box 12118
Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6
By fax: (604) 660-1236
By email: info@citizensassembly.bc.ca

How do I take the next step?

Please send our office the enclosed reply form if you:

- want to be considered for the next phase of the selection process; and
- are a resident of the electoral district that this letter was sent to; and
- are not excluded by any of the eligibility criteria.

Of those who reply, 20 persons from each electoral district will be randomly chosen and invited to an information and selection meeting. If you are invited, you will receive another letter with more information.

Those who reply but are not randomly selected to attend the regional selection meeting will be contacted by our office sometime after the selection meeting has been held.

The enclosed reply form can be sent by either mail or fax – or you can email the required information to us.

If you want to be considered for membership, you must **confirm your interest and your eligibility** by replying before the deadline written in bold on the covering letter.

Thank you again for considering this opportunity to serve British Columbia.

CA – 1st Nations: Letter to Invitees

LOGO
ADDRESS
DATE

«Given» «Surname»
«Mailing_line_1»
«Mailing_line_2»
«Mailing_City», «Mailing_Province»
«Mailing_Postal_Code»

Dear «Given»:

Re: Representation of Aboriginal Ancestry on the Citizens' Assembly

I am writing today to all those who attended our selection meetings but who were not selected to be a member of the Citizens' Assembly. My reason concerns a matter which is important to the success of the Citizens' Assembly.

The Citizens' Assembly has now selected 158 members. As intended, these members are fairly representative of the citizens of B.C. However, Assembly membership, as it stands, does not fairly represent our traditional Aboriginal communities.

From a telephone survey of members, I was pleased to learn the Assembly has one member who has recently discovered her Métis roots. However, our Aboriginal community, with whom British Columbians are now engaged in building new partnerships, requires a stronger representation in the Assembly. The Citizens' Assembly is a bold and important invention in citizen participation and must be seen as credible, fair, and working in good faith. Clear representation of our traditional Aboriginal communities is fundamental to this credibility.

After much thought and consultation, I have asked the government to allow us to randomly select two additional members who have Aboriginal ancestry. Today, we received this permission.

That is why I am writing to you, and to all those who were invited to a Citizens' Assembly member selection meeting, who said they were both interested and eligible to serve as a member, but who were not selected.

I am asking you two questions: (1) Are you Aboriginal? and (2) If so, do you remain interested and eligible for Assembly membership? If the answer to these two questions is yes, please call our office by **December 18th**. You can call us toll-free at **1-866-667-1232**.

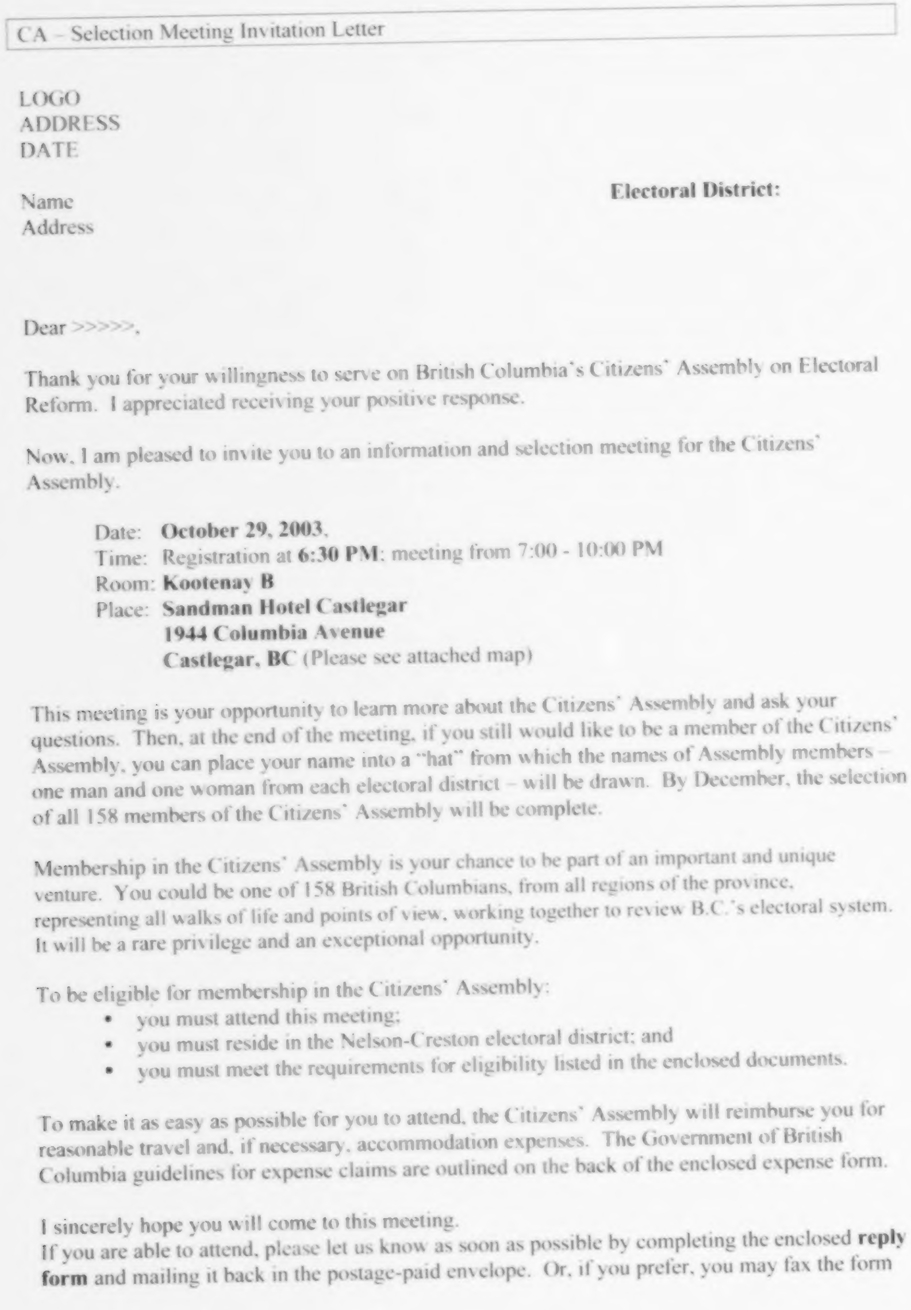
We will place all the names of those who respond – who tell us they are Aboriginal and are eligible and interested – in a "hat" and draw two names on December 22, 2003.

So, if you are a person of Aboriginal ancestry, I urge you to consider this unique opportunity to serve our province. We want your voices to be included in our discussions and deliberation.

If you have any questions, or received this letter after the December 18th deadline, please call us immediately. We will select the two additional members on December 22nd.

Thank you for considering this important request.

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)



CA – Selection Meeting Invitation Letter

LOGO
ADDRESS
DATE

Name
Address

Electoral District:

Dear >>>>>,

Thank you for your willingness to serve on British Columbia's Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. I appreciated receiving your positive response.

Now, I am pleased to invite you to an information and selection meeting for the Citizens' Assembly.

Date: **October 29, 2003.**
Time: Registration at **6:30 PM**; meeting from 7:00 - 10:00 PM
Room: **Kootenay B**
Place: **Sandman Hotel Castlegar**
1944 Columbia Avenue
Castlegar, BC (Please see attached map)

This meeting is your opportunity to learn more about the Citizens' Assembly and ask your questions. Then, at the end of the meeting, if you still would like to be a member of the Citizens' Assembly, you can place your name into a "hat" from which the names of Assembly members – one man and one woman from each electoral district – will be drawn. By December, the selection of all 158 members of the Citizens' Assembly will be complete.

Membership in the Citizens' Assembly is your chance to be part of an important and unique venture. You could be one of 158 British Columbians, from all regions of the province, representing all walks of life and points of view, working together to review B.C.'s electoral system. It will be a rare privilege and an exceptional opportunity.

To be eligible for membership in the Citizens' Assembly:

- you must attend this meeting;
- you must reside in the Nelson-Creston electoral district; and
- you must meet the requirements for eligibility listed in the enclosed documents.

To make it as easy as possible for you to attend, the Citizens' Assembly will reimburse you for reasonable travel and, if necessary, accommodation expenses. The Government of British Columbia guidelines for expense claims are outlined on the back of the enclosed expense form.

I sincerely hope you will come to this meeting.
If you are able to attend, please let us know as soon as possible by completing the enclosed **reply form** and mailing it back in the postage-paid envelope. Or, if you prefer, you may fax the form

or email us the requested information. (See form for details.) We need to hear from you no later than Tuesday, October 21, 2003. Your prompt response will help us plan for the meeting.

Also, please read the enclosed information before the meeting and bring **proof of your identity** to the meeting.

If you have questions or concerns, or need assistance with arrangements, please contact the Citizens' Assembly office at 1-866-667-1232 or member@citizensassembly.bc.ca and we will be pleased to assist you.

Again, my thanks for your willingness to serve your fellow British Columbians by participating on the Citizens' Assembly.

CA – Selection Meeting Information Package

Selection Meeting

Confirmation of attendance

We would appreciate knowing as soon as possible if you are able to attend the selection meeting. Please confirm your attendance by contacting the Citizens' Assembly office by October 21, 2003 at the latest. Your early response will help us prepare for this meeting.

If, after confirming your attendance at this meeting, your circumstances change and you are no longer able to attend, please let us know as soon as possible so this opportunity can be provided to someone else. Contact us by calling toll-free 1-866-667-1232 or by emailing member@citizensassembly.bc.ca. Thank you for your cooperation.

Identification

When you first arrive at the meeting, you will be asked to sign in and provide proof of your identity. Please bring photo identification, such as your driver's license or passport. If you do not have photo identification, bring the invitation letter along with some other identification, such as a birth certificate. It is important that we ensure each person who comes to the meeting is, in fact, the same person who was randomly selected and invited to attend.

Selection meeting process

Registration will begin at **6:00 PM**. During the meeting, a Citizens' Assembly staff member will make a presentation and answer your questions. Finally, the selection process will be fully explained. If you still wish to serve on the Assembly, your name will be put in a "hat." Then members will be selected from each electoral district in this order:

Nelson- Creston, West Kootenay-Boundary

If you are selected, we will ask you to stay for a few minutes after the meeting so we can congratulate you, take your photo and attend to a few brief administrative tasks.

Accommodation & travel arrangements for the October 29, 2003 meeting

Travel expenses and accommodation, if necessary, will be provided in accordance with B.C. government rates. Details on these rates are provided on the back of the claim form included in this package. Overnight accommodation can be provided if you have to travel more than 1½ hours to the meeting site.

Please complete the claim form and return it to our office with your receipts after the meeting. If you require assistance with accommodation, contact Cathy at 1-866-667-1232 or cstooshnov@citizensassembly.bc.ca

Special needs

If you wish to attend this meeting, we want to make it as easy as possible for you. So, if you have special needs, please note these on the enclosed reply form.

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Selection Meeting Information Package

Preparing to meet the media

The Citizens' Assembly is a unique, exciting, history-making project. This means members could become local "celebrities." Even at the selection meetings, you may find reporters asking you questions while news cameras and microphones record your answers.

Being interviewed by a reporter presents a terrific opportunity to tell the public about the work of the Assembly. But it's not something many of us are used to doing. Later, we'll offer Assembly members an opportunity to learn more about working with the media.

In the meantime, you might want to avoid being cornered with questions about your political views ("How did you vote in the last election?") and your thoughts on electoral reform ("What do you think is wrong with our current system?"). Answering these loaded questions could later cause discomfort for you and for other Assembly members. Instead, you may prefer to simply comment on being part of the Citizens' Assembly process and on the opportunity to learn more about voting systems and electoral reform.

Remember, the Assembly needs to be objective in approaching its task. Our personal political views should not be a factor. And it will be many months before members will have gathered enough information to make up their minds on electoral systems, and whether to recommend a change in our current system.

Some quick tips to keep in mind when talking to the media:

- **Be prepared**. If you do your homework, you'll feel more comfortable answering questions. Know what you want to say — and what you *don't* want to say. Listen carefully to the reporter's question. Think about your answer, then keep your response simple and brief. To prepare for possible interviews, you could review the information on the Citizens' Assembly website, as well as the information pages we have sent to you.
- **You don't have to answer a question just the way the reporter asks it.** Look at each question as an opportunity to say things *you* want to say.
  - If the reporter asks a question negatively, don't feel you have to use the same words.
  - It's usually better not to answer "What if …" questions.
  - "No comment" answers come across negatively. Instead, you could briefly explain why you're unable to respond.
- ***Everything* you say to a reporter could be published or broadcast.** Reporters have a job to do: get a good story to tell their audience. When talking to a reporter, you are never "off the record," so don't ask a reporter not to quote you. Say only what you would feel good about seeing in tomorrow's paper or hearing on the news

If you would like help or advice regarding dealing with the media, please contact either:

Don MacLachlan, Citizens' Assembly
1-866-667-1232 or 604-660-1207
dmaclachlan@citizensassembly.bc.ca

Marilyn Jacobson, Citizens' Assembly
1-866-667-1232 or 604-660-1363
mjacobson@citizensassembly.bc.ca

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Selection Meeting Information Package

Membership: Expectations and Responsibilities

Members of the Citizens' Assembly are undertaking an important task on behalf of all British Columbians. So, please think carefully about what will be expected of you and whether you can commit to fulfilling these responsibilities for the duration of the Assembly.

Throughout the work of the Citizens' Assembly, members will be expected to:

- Attend and participate in all the sessions of the Assembly
- Read and understand the materials distributed to the Assembly
- Support and assist one another
- Be open to the views and opinions of others
- Support the work and decisions of the Assembly
- Act as ambassadors for the Citizens' Assembly

The work of the Assembly will include three phases: learning, public hearings and deliberation.

Learning	Public Hearings	Deliberation	Final Recommendation
Jan – Mar 2004	**May – June 2004**	**Sept – Nov 2004**	**Dec 2004**
January 10 – 11 January 24 – 25 February 7 – 8 February 21 – 22 March 6 – 7 March 20 – 21	To be scheduled in communities across B.C.	September 11 – 12 September 25 – 26 October 16 – 17 October 23 – 24 November 13 – 14	A report on the recommendation of the Citizens' Assembly is submitted

Learning Phase: From January 10 to March 21, every second weekend – six weekends in total – will be devoted to Assembly meetings in Vancouver. Each weekend will consist of sessions on Saturday from 9am to 4:30pm and on Sunday from 9am to 12 noon. Meals will be provided throughout the weekend, including lunch on Sunday. Assembly members will be accommodated at the Delta Vancouver Suites for both Friday and Saturday nights.

Public Hearings Phase: Public meetings will be scheduled throughout the province in the months of May and June. Assembly members will be expected to attend one or two meetings near their homes. In addition, members may be invited to attend a meeting in another region of the province so they can gain an appreciation for the concerns and needs of citizens in other parts of B.C.

Deliberations Phase: Following a summer recess, the Assembly will reconvene for four to five weekends of discussion and deliberation. Beginning September 11, the Assembly will work to reach agreement on the preferred voting system for the province. Then, a report will be prepared providing the rationale for this decision. If the Assembly recommends a change in B.C.'s electoral system, it will draft the ballot question that will appear on the provincial referendum to be held in May 2005.

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Selection Meeting Information Package

Membership: Eligibility Review

Your name was randomly selected from the B.C. voters list to be invited to consider membership in the Citizens' Assembly. Now we need you to, once again, carefully review the membership requirements to ensure you are eligible to serve on the Assembly. You are in the best position to make this judgment.

In reviewing these requirements, please remember that the Citizens' Assembly – and its members – will attract media attention. So, you'll want to make sure you are eligible.

In addition to ensuring Assembly members are Canadian citizens, live in B.C. and are of voting age, these requirements are also designed to keep political influences out of the Assembly and, as much as possible, ensure the Assembly is fair and open-minded.

Eligibility requirements – The following people are NOT eligible to serve on the Assembly:

a) a person who is *not* a Canadian citizen;
b) a person *not* resident in British Columbia;
c) a person under the age of 18;
d) a judge, justice or court referee;
e) a member or officer of the Parliament of Canada or of the Privy Council of Canada;
f) a member or officer of the Legislature or of the Executive Council;
g) an elected member of a local government, including a school board or a park board;
h) a candidate in the last 2 federal, provincial, municipal or regional district elections;
i) an official representative or agent of a person identified in paragraph (h);
j) an immediate family member of a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly;
k) a current officer or official representative of a registered provincial political party;
l) a chief or band councillor elected under the Indian Act;
m) an elected member of a Nisga'a Government as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement.

A detailed explanation of these requirements is available on the Citizens' Assembly website www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. You may also call our office at 1-866-667-1232 or email us at member@citizensassembly.bc.ca to request this document or to discuss these requirements.

English fluency requirement – Remember that English is the language that will be used in the Assembly. So, all members must be comfortable reading and conversing in English.

Residency requirements – To participate in the Citizens' Assembly, you *must* be a resident of the **Nelson-Creston** electoral district. If you no longer reside in this electoral district, you are *not* eligible to participate in the selection meeting.

Compensation

Membership in the Assembly is a volunteer appointment. An honorarium of $150 per meeting day will be provided. Also, *reasonable* expenses associated with Assembly work will be covered. These expenses include accommodation and transportation. (See the back of the enclosed expense form for Government of British Columbia expense guidelines.)

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

CA – Welcome Letter to Selected Members

LOGO
ADDRESS
DATE

Name
Address

Dear >>>>:

Congratulations on your selection as a member of British Columbia's Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform ("Citizens' Assembly").

I very much look forward to working with you during 2004. Together we will learn about various electoral systems, listen to views of fellow British Columbians and discuss which voting system would work best for B.C.

The Citizens' Assembly is vitally important for two reasons: first, what we are doing could significantly alter political life in this province; and, second, the way we are reviewing our voting system has never been tried before and is attracting a lot of interest. Our Citizens' Assembly process is unique in Canadian history -- never before has a representative group of non-elected citizens played such a vital role in shaping the electoral process. Indeed, this may well be the first time in any of the world's democracies that citizens, such as ourselves, have had such a significant role in determining how the democratic process works.

I am truly excited to be involved in this ambitious, history-making venture. I'm sure you share this feeling.

Membership in the Citizens' Assembly is a rare privilege and a significant responsibility. I truly appreciate your commitment and your willingness to devote your volunteer time in 2004 to serve your province. While I recognize this is a large commitment, the Assembly staff and I will do everything in our power to make 2004 an exceptional and memorable year for you.

In the weeks leading up to our first Assembly meeting in January, you will be hearing from Assembly staff as well as receiving a complete information package in mid-December. We will be calling you to discuss things like travel arrangements and preparing a brief biography for you.

Staying in touch with Assembly members will be a priority for us. We will provide you with frequent information updates and a regular newsletter. For members with Internet access, we will keep in contact by email; for those who do not have email, we will keep in touch over the phone and by mail. If you have a computer and access to the Internet, you will want to visit and bookmark our website www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. By late November, you will notice significant changes and improvements to the site.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 1-866-667-1232 or email us at member@citizensassembly.bc.ca. You can also reach me if you wish. My direct line is 604-660-1286.

Appendix: Selection Phase Communications (continued)

Finally, if your circumstances change and you are not able to continue as a member of the Citizens' Assembly, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can offer this opportunity to someone else from your region. After the first week of January, we will not be able to make replacements.

Thank you again for your commitment to serving British Columbia.

Appendix: Regional Selection Meetings

Location	Electoral Districts	Venue	Date
Fort St. John	41 Peace River North 42 Peace River South	Northern Grand Hotel	Oct. 14, 2003
Prince George	47 Prince George - Mount Robson 48 Prince George North 49 Prince George - Omineca	PG Civic Centre	Oct. 15, 2003
Terrace	4 Bulkley Valley - Stikine 34 North Coast 56 Skeena	NWCC College	Oct. 16, 2003
Williams Lake	9 Cariboo -North 10 Cariboo - South	Cariboo Conference Centre	Oct. 16, 2003
Kamloops	22 Kamloops 23 Kamloops - North Thompson 79 Yale - Lillooet	UCC Campus	Oct. 20, 2003
Kelowna	24 Kelowna - Lake Country 25 Kelowna - Mission 40 Okanagan - Westside 43 Penticton - Okanagan Valley	Capri Hotel	Oct. 21, 2003
Salmon Arm	39 Okanagan - Vernon 55 Shuswap	Holiday Inn	Oct. 22, 2003
Saanich	20 Esquimalt - Metchosin 27 Malahat - Juan de Fuca 53 Saanich North and the Islands 54 Saanich	Laurel Point Resort	Oct 23, 2003
Golden	13 Columbia River - Revelstoke	Prestige Inn	Oct. 27, 2003
Cranbrook	19 East Kootenay	Prestige Inn	Oct. 28, 2003
Castlegar	32 Nelson - Creston 76 West Kootenay - Boundary	Sandman	Oct. 29, 2003
Nanaimo	03 Alberni - Qualicum 16 Cowichan - Ladysmith 30 Nanaimo 31 Nanaimo - Parksville	Coast Bastion	Oct. 29, 2003
Campbell River	14 Comox Valley 35 North Island	Ramada Inn	Oct. 30, 2003
Chilliwack	1 Abbotsford - Clayburn 2 Abbotsford - Mt. Lehman 11 Chilliwack - Kent 12 Chilliwack - Sumas	Rhombus Hotel	Nov. 3, 2003
Port Coquitlam	28 Maple Ridge - Mission 29 Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows 44 Port Coquitlam - Burke Mountain 45 Port Moody - Westwood	PoCo Inn	Nov. 4, 2003

Appendix: Regional Selection Meetings (continued)

Location	Electoral Districts	Venue	Date
New Westminster	15 Coquitlam - Maillardville 17 Delta North 33 New Westminster 62 Surrey - Whalley	**Inn at Westminster Quay**	Nov. 5, 2003
Burnaby	5 Burnaby - Edmonds 6 Burnaby - North 7 Burnaby - Willingdon 8 Burquitlam	**Executive Hotel**	Nov. 6, 2003
Victoria	38 Oak Bay - Gordon 74 Victoria - Beacon Hill 75 Victoria - Hillside	**Hotel Grand Pacific**	Nov. 12, 2003
North Vancouver	36 North Vancouver - Lonsdale 37 North Vancouver - Seymour 77 West Vancouver - Capilano 78 West Vancouver - Garibaldi	**Lonsdale Quay Hotel**	Nov. 13, 2003
Sechelt	46 Powell River - Sunshine Coast	**Capilano College**	Nov. 15, 2003
Langley	21 Fort Langley 26 Langley 57 Surrey - Cloverdale 61 Surrey - Tynehead	**Hampton Inn**	Nov. 17, 2003
Surrey	58 Surrey - Green Timbers 59 Surrey - Newton 60 Surrey - Panorama Ridge 63 Surrey - White Rock	**Kwantlen Surrey Campus**	Nov. 18, 2003
Richmond	18 Delta South 50 Richmond Centre 51 Richmond East 52 Richmond - Steveston	**Ramada Plaza**	Nov. 19, 2003
Vancouver East	68 Vancouver - Kensington 69 Vancouver - Kingsway 66 Vancouver - Fraserview 67 Vancouver - Hastings	**Marriot Pinnacle**	Nov. 20, 2003
Vancouver	72 Vancouver - Point Grey 73 Vancouver - Quilchena 70 Vancouver - Langara	**Hyatt Regency**	Nov. 24, 2003
Vancouver	64 Vancouver - Burrard 65 Vancouver - Fairview 71 Vancouver - Mount Pleasant	**Hyatt Regency**	Nov. 25, 2003
Vancouver	69 Vancouver - Kingsway	**Citizens' Assembly Office**	Dec. 8, 2003
Vancouver	Aboriginal members	**Citizens' Assembly Office**	Dec. 22, 2003

Appendix: Policies and Procedures

ADOPTED BY ASSEMBLY ON JANUARY 10, 2004

That the following policies and procedures have been adopted, recognizing that, as we learn to work together, these policies and procedures may be amended or amplified.

1. On matters of meeting procedure, that is, how we conduct meetings, common sense and reasonableness will prevail. A list of shared values will be developed and adopted by the Assembly during the first weekend of meetings. These shared values will act as a guideline for how the group will work together. These guidelines can be revisited for clarification or amendment.
2. The conduct of the Citizens' Assembly meetings normally will be informal and, where feasible, most decisions will be reached by consensus.
3. When formality is required, the Citizens' Assembly will be guided by the Terms of Reference and policies and procedures of the Assembly. Where the Terms of Reference, and policies and procedures are silent, the Chair will make decisions regarding procedure for the meetings of the Assembly. Such decisions may include referring a matter to the Assembly. The spirit and aim of the Assembly's procedures should be to develop our own way of working as we learn to work together, rather than having to resort to a formal meeting system such as "Roberts Rules of Order."
4. A quorum will be fifty percent of the membership of the Citizens' Assembly. A quorum is the number of members required to be in attendance in order to make decisions and conduct Assembly business.
5. The Chair may summarize a consensus position and that consensus position will be deemed equivalent to a vote unless a vote is requested by several members of the Citizens' Assembly.
6. Consensus means that in the opinion of the Chair a very clear majority of the members support or can "live with the decision."
7. Where a formal decision is required, such as those noted in the Terms of Reference and Duties of the Chair, the decision will be made by a vote of the majority (50% plus one) of the Citizens' Assembly members present.
8. Voting will be by a show of hands, or by the electronic motion button in the Asia Pacific Hall, or by secret ballot as determined by the Chair in consultation with members.
9. The Chair does not have a vote, but may cast a deciding vote in the event of a tie on a resolution.
10. The Chair will ensure that all decisions of the Assembly are recorded and provided to Assembly members.
11. A daily question period, on all matters of interest to Assembly members, will begin each morning session of the Assembly. The question period normally will continue for 15 minutes, but may be extended if required.
12. Discussion groups will be composed of similar numbers and their membership will be changed each weekend. A facilitator will support the work of these discussion groups.
13. Normally, any motions to the Assembly to address or decide on an issue will first be put forward as a notice of motion.
14. The activities of the Citizens' Assembly will be open to the public and media.

Appendix: Policies and Procedures (continued)

(a) Members of the public and media shall not disrupt the proceedings of the Assembly and will be accommodated on an "as-space-is-available" basis.

(b) Access to discussion groups, however, will be constrained by the limited available space and will be subject to review by the Assembly.

15. Submissions to the Citizens' Assembly are considered to be in the public domain and may be posted on the web site. Submissions also will be available to members and the public during weekend meetings and at the Assembly office during regular office hours.

Appendix: A Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform has completed the first phase of its work and eagerly looks forward to hearing the views of all British Columbians. We have organized public hearings to be held in communities all over the province during May and June. In this report, we indicate what we have accomplished to date and provide a preliminary assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of our current electoral system. We invite comments on this as well as on the features of electoral systems which we feel merit further discussion and debate.

At this stage, the Assembly has not come to any conclusion about whether the present system needs to be reformed. In fact, we have deliberately refrained from doing so. We are still busy learning about democratic electoral systems and want to hear from our fellow citizens about what they think. This is a time for discussion and debate and we invite all British Columbians to join us in this process.

1. The BC Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

The British Columbia Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was established by the government and Legislature in the spring of 2003 with a clear mandate. It is to "assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly" and specifically the "manner by which voters' ballots are translated into seats in the Legislative Assembly". If the Assembly concludes that an alternative model to the one now used ought to be adopted, then its recommendation is to be put to a referendum of the province's voters on May 17, 2005, the time of the next scheduled provincial election. In making any recommendation, the Assembly is to ensure that any change would "be consistent with both the Constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system".

The Citizens' Assembly was established by an order-in-council which provided that its membership was open to all British Columbians on the provincial voters list with the exception of working politicians. Jack Blaney was designated, by a unanimous vote of the Legislative Assembly, to chair the Assembly and direct the work of its staff. A two-stage random selection process – carefully balanced by gender and age and structured to include individuals from all electoral districts in the province – led to a further 160 citizens being randomly chosen from the provincial voters list to constitute the Assembly's membership.

The Assembly constitutes a representative group of non-elected British Columbia citizens. Its members range in age from 19 to 78. They come from a diverse set of backgrounds, ethnic communities and occupations, but all are concerned with the health of the province's democracy and its common political life. The members have committed to working together over most of 2004 in a serious and sustained effort to evaluate the electoral system and determine if there is another system that might serve the province better.

The Assembly's work is divided into three phases. The first, now completed, involved detailed study of the range of electoral systems used in modern democracies. Given that no two countries use exactly the same system, this proved to be a major undertaking but it has given the Assembly an appreciation of the fact that there is no such thing as a perfect system. All electoral systems involve trade-offs among desirable elements, and any system must reflect the values and aspirations of the community that will use it. In a subsequent section of this statement, we report on our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the system now used in British Columbia.

The second phase of the Assembly's work will involve listening carefully to the views of all British Columbians. What kind of politics would they like to see? What sorts of electoral systems do they believe are appropriate or desirable? Assembly members will participate in public hearings around the province and study formal submissions made to them (available on our website: www.citizensassembly.bc.ca).

In the third phase, scheduled for the fall of 2004, the Assembly will meet to hear formal presentations on the merits of alternative systems and then to discuss and debate the issues around its mandate so members can then draft a set of final recommendations for their fellow British Columbians. The mandate requires that the Assembly either endorse the current system or propose a specific alternative.

This statement signals the end of the first phase and invites British Columbians to consider and respond to the preliminary assessment that Assembly members have made of the electoral system now in use and their suggestions for further consideration.

2. The Assembly's Work to Date

The learning phase of the Assembly stretched over six busy weekends from January through March. Assembly members came together and worked hard to learn about the way our political system works, and then to study five different families of electoral systems. With presentations from staff members and visiting experts from across Canada and around the world, the Assembly learned how variations in constituency size, ballot paper formats and counting formula combine to produce a wide variety of different systems.

The families studied include:

Majority systems (as in France or Australia)
Plurality systems (as in Canada or India)
Proportional representation by list systems (as in Finland or the Netherlands)
Proportional representation by transferable vote systems (as in Ireland or Australia)
Mixed systems (as in Germany or Japan)

The Assembly has taken the measure of these different kinds of systems and discovered that each has its advantages and disadvantages. (For details, please consult our website or contact the Assembly or its members for 'fact sheets' outlining these systems.) In accordance with its mandate, the Assembly has paid particular attention to the effects of these different electoral models "on the government, the Legislative Assembly and the political parties". This intensive study has involved the mastery of complex concepts and the appreciation of relevant comparative experience through absorbing formal presentations, engaging in small group discussions, and undertaking considerable private study of advanced political science literature. All Assembly members have been active participants – attendance at Assembly meetings has been virtually 100% – and all members have participated fully and equally in the discussions that have led to this preliminary statement.

Assessing the comparative merits of differing systems is neither easy nor straightforward but Assembly members identified several criteria to use as benchmarks:

- The extent to which electoral outcomes reflected votes cast (the issue of vote-seat relationships)
- The nature of the linkage between voters and their representatives (the character of local representation)
- The range and nature of choice offered to voters (issues ranging from the number and nature of competing parties to the form of the ballots)
- The impact of the system on governance (the issues of effective government and the working of the legislature).

The Assembly quickly realized that there is no perfect system. The problem for it has been one of weighing the relative merits of the different systems and the trade-offs in desirable features that they require. At this stage in the work of the Assembly, members have reached a general consensus on the basic strengths and weaknesses of the present electoral system and believe that, before any decisions are taken, further reflection and debate is needed.

3 The Citizens' Assembly Assessment of the Current BC Electoral System

Assembly members are cognizant that our current single-member plurality electoral system – sometimes known as First-Past-the-Post – has much to recommend it. The system has been in widespread use in British Columbia and most other parts of Canada for most of our history and has served us well. We have a flourishing democracy in which voters hold politicians and governments accountable and we would not want to abandon such a system unless it was clear that: 1) the system had deficiencies that detracted from the evolution and maintenance of healthy democratic politics in the province, and 2) we were convinced that there was an alternative system that could be adopted that would speak to the identified deficiencies.

In an attempt to advance discussion about our electoral system, the Assembly has identified the following basic advantages and disadvantages of the system as it operates in British Columbia. This points to features that Assembly members believe need to be central to an assessment of the system.

Appendix: A Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia (continued)

Strengths of the Current System:

- LOCAL REPRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY
  The current system provides for individuals to be elected representing specific and identifiable areas of the province. This fosters a direct link between voters and their representatives and ensures that all areas of the province have a spokesperson in the legislature. This system allows politicians to speak authoritatively for their area, enables issues of local concern to be placed on the public agenda, and provides a mechanism for voters to hold representatives directly accountable for their actions. All Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) have equal standing in the legislature and share common obligations and relationships to the electorate.
- STYLE OF GOVERNMENT AND REPRESENTATION
  The current system promotes the creation of majority governments that can claim an electoral mandate. These governments have a security of tenure that allows them to plan confidently for the life of the Legislative Assembly and to implement their program as they see fit. By stimulating winner-take-all competition, the electoral system fosters two-party competition and works to limit the place and influence of minor parties and marginal interests. Elections generally revolve on the issue of the choice of governments.
- SIMPLICITY, FAMILIARITY AND TRANSPARENT COUNTING
  The single-member plurality system is familiar and straightforward. Voters are simply required to indicate their preferred candidate from the list of names presented. Winners are determined by a simple count of the ballots and are known almost immediately.

Weaknesses of the Current System:

- LACK OF PROPORTIONALITY
  Our single-member plurality system is one in which there is no direct connection between the number of votes a party receives and the number of seats it wins in the Legislative Assembly. The system favours large parties over small ones, creating governments with 'artificial' majorities and depriving minority views from finding expression in the legislature. This tends to limit effective voter choice, leads to many votes not contributing to electing any MLA, and sometimes leads to parties with the most votes not winning an election.
- GOVERNMENT-DOMINATED PARLIAMENTS
  The system fosters an adversarial style of two-party politics in which government domination of the legislature becomes standard practice. With strong party discipline this ensures centralized decision-making with no effective opportunity for the legislature to hold the government accountable between elections. The system cannot ensure a strong opposition and, with MLAs required to put party interests above those of their constituencies, local and minority interests are often excluded.

- IMPACTS ON GOVERNANCE AND VOTERS
  Adversarial politics often result in sharp swings in public policy as newly elected governments often undo or reverse the programs of their predecessors. This style of politics contributes to a growing alienation of voters from the political process, which has been reflected in falling voter turnout rates, especially among young voters.

4. Approaches to Alternative Electoral Systems

The Assembly has considered a wide range of alternative electoral systems and studied their impact in other democracies. It has given particular attention to the values that underlie the basic features of these other systems and their potential consequences for the style and character of British Columbia's democracy. While it is difficult to predict in detail how any other specific system would work in British Columbia, the Assembly is convinced that any alternative system it considers must reflect the values it believes are central to the political health of the province's democracy. At this point it draws attention to important defining features of electoral systems:

- LOCAL REPRESENTATION
  Our tradition has long valued a system of representation that provides for local representation – for its politicians to speak for and answer to the distinctive communities that make up the whole province. Citizens believe it is important that the interests of their particular communities be represented in public debate and policy-making. This is accomplished when MLAs have an intimate knowledge of the communities they represent and the concerns of the people in them.

  With elected politicians rooted in specific geographic areas, it is possible for voters to hold them directly accountable for their performance in defending the values and interests of their local constituents. Having a local representative gives individual citizens a direct personal channel into the government, a local contact they can use to obtain help or advance their concerns. The Assembly is aware that British Columbians in rural areas, and in locations far removed from the heavily populated Lower Mainland region, feel especially strongly that they must struggle to have their concerns heard. It is sensitive to the reality that for them, a vigorous system of local representation remains a highly valued dimension of their political life. It anticipates that any reformed electoral system would need to maintain an element of effective local representation.

  Creating an electoral system that ensures effective local representation is an important challenge. The practice of party discipline obliges MLAs to vote as their party decides, not always as their voters prefer. The Assembly is interested in considering electoral systems whose features help ensure that elected representatives are more responsive to the concerns and views of their constituents.

Appendix: A Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia (continued)

- PROPORTIONALITY

  The Assembly believes it is important that the outcome of an election, in terms of the distribution of seats in the legislature, should reflect the expressed intentions of citizens as expressed in their votes. This is the principle of proportionality – seats won should be proportional to votes won.

  Beyond an acceptance of this basic principle, the Assembly has learned that there are a number of important reasons why British Columbians might want to consider moving to an electoral system based on proportional representation. Such systems typically ensure that more parties are able to compete successfully and so provide voters with more choice. A direct consequence is that more interests and groups are able to have their voices heard in a legislature that is more reflective of the social composition of the electorate. Given the province's increasing diversity, this offers the possibility of more genuinely representative politics at a time when voter turnout is falling and apathy is rising among young British Columbians.

  The Assembly is aware that proportional electoral systems are likely to end the dominance of one-party majority governments and lead to a more consensual, or at least coalitional, style of politics in which opposition and small party MLAs have the opportunity to play a greater role in the government of the province. It believes that a move away from the highly charged adversarial politics that have characterized the province in recent decades might foster politics more in keeping with the values of contemporary British Columbians.

  Most modern democracies incorporate some proportional element in their electoral systems. The Assembly is aware that, by increasing the number of political parties, such systems can alter the balance of forces in the legislature. To avoid excessive political fragmentation some consideration might have to be given to establishing a modest threshold that parties would be expected to meet before being guaranteed representation.

  There are a number of possible proportional systems – some that exist in pure party-list form, others which combine with features of constituency-based systems in different ways. In terms of its basic value position, the Assembly believes that many of these offer rich possibilities for British Columbia and deserve careful consideration. On the other hand, systems that are not responsive to the goal of increasing the proportionality of the system would seem to offer little in the way of advantage over the single-member plurality system we now use. In the same way, the choices offered voters are an important and integral part of any electoral system and the Assembly would not want to see it constrained.

Appendix: A Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia (continued)

5. What kind of voting system do YOU want in British Columbia?

The Assembly wants to hear from British Columbians. It wants to hear if they share its conviction that local representation needs to be an important element in the province's electoral system. It wants to hear if they agree with it that a more proportional system would better reflect the basic values of our province's population. It wants to hear what kind of choices they would like to see at the polls. And it is anxious to hear what kind of electoral system our fellow citizens believe can best express our common values.

We welcome feedback on these and any other aspect of the electoral system that British Columbians feel would contribute to our province's democratic process. We look forward to hearing a full expression of public views at our public hearings to be held across the province during May and June, and encourage formal submissions through our website or to the Assembly office.

Issued by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
at Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue
March 21, 2004

For a full account of the materials used in the learning phase please consult our website. www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. For a glossary, defining many of the technical terms used in describing and explaining electoral systems see: http://www.citizensassembly.bc.ca/public/learning_resources/glossary

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes

Briefing notes [prepared April 2004]

Purpose of public hearings

The public hearings are primarily intended to:

- Provide British Columbians with an opportunity to help shape this electoral review by directly informing Assembly members of their opinions on the best voting system for BC
- Engage members of the community in a dialogue about electoral systems and what British Columbians most value about how Members of the Legislature are chosen

The secondary purposes are to:

- Encourage members of the community to involve others in this dialogue
- Persuade the attendees to stay engaged in the processes of the Assembly

Room layout and format for the public hearings

The room will be arranged in a traditional layout, that is, Assembly members will sit at a table in front of the attendees. Where numbers are small, attendees will be seated in a semicircle or U-shaped arrangement. Presenters will have a podium from which they will make their presentation and answer questions from Assembly and community members.

Once the presentations are completed, the moderator may invite the attendees and Assembly members to re-arrange the chairs into a large circle for an informal discussion – subject to the size of the room and number of attendees. The re-arrangement of furniture can take place during a five-minute break.

Preparation for public hearings

The Assembly has identified many things that members can do to prepare for the hearings.

Building awareness in the community

- Use opportunities in the local community to speak about the Citizens' Assembly and its activities (Contact communications staff for assistance)
- Be willing to talk with the media if you are comfortable with the task and inform Communications staff of these discussions
- In media discussions, keep to issues of process and electoral system values rather than specific electoral systems
- Hang posters in community locations
- Distribute the Assembly's Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia

Personal preparation

- Develop an index or easy filing system for information you may need to refer to during the hearings
- Familiarize yourself with the Preliminary Statement to the People of British Columbia
- Familiarize yourself with your Communication Toolkit – particularly the 14 fact sheets, key messages and Q&As

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

Preparing for each hearing

- Familiarize yourself with written presentations and submissions that will be presented during the hearing. Staff will forward to members of the panel for each hearing all copies of written presentations received prior to that hearing and copies of submissions that will be addressed during the hearing
- Inform the local host and moderator for your hearing in advance about any local issues that may come up at the hearing

Pre-hearing activities:

- A local host will be selected for each public hearing from local members who have volunteered for the function. When there are two local volunteers, a member will be selected for the introductory portion and the other member will close the hearing. Where there are more than two local members, the selection will be made by a draw from the hat. In the event there are no local volunteers, the staff will seek a local host from a neighbouring community or region
- Staff will typically arrive 2 -2 ½ hours before a hearing to set up the room
- The local host should meet with the moderator before the hearing to finalize preparations
- Other Assembly members should arrive about 30 minutes before the hearing start-time to help welcome guests and make them feel at home

At the hearing

Setting the stage – Assembly mandate

At the start of the hearing, the local host and/or moderator should review the mandate of the Citizens' Assembly, which is to:

- Assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly that are consistent with the Constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system. This assessment is limited to the manner in which voters' ballots are translated into elected members; and must take into account the potential effect of the recommended model
- Consult with British Columbians
- Issue a final report – by December 15, 2004 – recommending the retention of the current model or the implementation of another model

The moderator will also remind all present that the Assembly is non-partisan and the purpose of these hearings is to look at how we elect our political representatives. The hearing is not to be used as a platform for praising or criticizing the current or past governments or any particular political party. We will focus solely on the best voting system for our province.

Discussions and questions during the hearings

A list of questions developed by the Assembly can be found in this Manual. A few of these will be selected by the local host and moderator to be raised at the start of the hearing. The questions selected will address issues which should be of interest to the local community and will provide information that will be useful to the Assembly. These questions could again be repeated and used as the basis for discussions at the end of the presentations.

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

In addition to the broad questions the host or moderator may pose at the start of a hearing, members may wish to ask presenters questions of clarification during or immediately following each presentation. Presenters may invite questions during their presentation or ask that they be held until the presentation is complete. If the presenter does not specify, assume questions should follow the presentation. Although you are not obliged to ask presenters questions, you should feel comfortable doing so. If you have not understood a point in their presentation, you can be sure others also have not understood. Asking a question could help increase understanding for all and encourage others to ask questions as well.

Asking questions should not lead to a debate about the content of the presentation. Presenters are fully entitled to their beliefs, especially on an issue such as electoral reform where there are so many options and possibilities to consider.

Presenters who raise matters outside the Assembly's mandate should be allowed to proceed with their presentations and leave their written materials with Assembly members/staff. However, it may not be wise to spend unnecessary time on matters outside our mandate.

Roles

Local host (see agenda)

- Introductions and welcome
- Explain the purpose of the hearing
- Review agenda for hearing
- Introduce the video and handle follow-up questions, involving other members
- Invite the public to complete the survey or mail it in
- Introduce the moderator, who will be responsible for managing the hearing

Assembly members (including local host)

- Greet and welcome attendees as they arrive and help them feel comfortable
- Support and assist fellow members with information and work as a team
- Ask questions of presenters for clarification and the anticipated implications of proposal on the voting system, the political process, and the legislature
- Seek input on the values (such as local representation, proportionality, voter choice) citizens want embedded in their electoral system
- Keep notes on the presentations and comments of members of the public for future reference and personal review
- Thank members of the public for participating in the hearing as they are leave
- Bring your tent card and name tag
- Avoid engaging in a debate about the merits of the presenter's proposal
- Avoid expressing a preference for a particular electoral system (This detracts from the credibility of the hearings)
- Avoid publicly disagreeing with or correcting fellow Assembly members

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

- Avoid debating or arguing with fellow Assembly members or members of the public

MODERATOR (STAFF)

- Thank the local host for the introduction and extend welcome
- Introduce other members of the staff: registrar, note-taker and media liaison
- Advise everyone that ...
  - Media may be present
  - The hearing will be recorded and pictures may be taken
  - Notes will be taken and summaries posted on the website; if necessary, presenters may request corrections to their summary
  - Questions to presenters should be questions of clarification and information; there will be time after the presentations to express opinions and differing views
  - All speakers should use the microphones so they can be heard
- Ask everyone to respect the views being presented
- Advise presenters that ...
  - They will be allowed 10 minutes each, and will be given a 1-minute warning; following each presentation, up to 10 minutes will be allowed for questions of clarification and information
  - If they want their full presentation on the web, they need to provide it as a written submission, preferably in electronic format
- Introduce presentations on agenda, in turn, as well as the group represented (if any) and the topic (Allow 10 minutes each; provide 1-minute warning)
- Invite other presentations from the attendees, providing an opportunity for members of the audience to formally express their values, views and suggestions – followed by public discussion
- Call 5 minute break; rearrange chairs, if desired; then reconvene
- Introduce informal discussion time

MEDIA LIAISON (STAFF)

- Provide a point of contact for the media, answering their questions and introducing them to members, as desired
- Prepare a news release for distribution
- Take pictures
- When a communications staff member is not in attendance, the moderator will liaise with the media and provide the communications staff with the needed information for the post-hearing news release

REGISTRAR(STAFF)

- Maintain a record of attendees, presenters, members and staff
- Ensure facilities are appropriate, refreshments are available
- Provide needed administrative support for the hearing
- Collect and record all documents and presentation materials
- Hang posters

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

- Display handouts
- Ensure members have tent cards
- Collect all registration documents

NOTE-TAKER (STAFF)

- Hook up audio recording equipment and record the hearing.
- Prepare a written summary for each presentation using the template provided, noting:
  - Name
  - Contact information and home community
  - Organization (if any)
  - Title of the presentation
  - Brief description of the presentation
  - Key themes/points of the presentation
  - Key recommendations of the presentation
  - Questions, questioners and answers – during and following each presentation
  - Availability and format of written copies of presentation
  - Key observations or comments made by the audience following the presentation
  - "Quotable quotes," with attribution
- Prepare a written summary of the hearing, noting:
  - The key themes presented and discussed during the hearing
  - Key recommendations formally presented during the hearing
  - Number of people in attendance: Assembly members, presenters and public (At the conclusion of the hearing, provide this information to communication staff for inclusion in the news release)

Plenary Presentation Recommendations

Following each public hearing, Assembly members on the panel for that hearing will meet to determine if any of the presentations they heard should be recommended to the Selection Committee for consideration for presentations to the plenary session in early September. The criteria approved by the Assembly for the selection of plenary presentations are:

- Quality of presentation at a public hearing – clear, well-thought-out, coherent arguments; fully detailed proposal; effective application to British Columbia's circumstance
- Mandate - compliance with Assembly mandate
- Balance and representativeness – the proposal offers a fair and balanced representation of submissions and public views, regions, interest groups and electoral systems
- Merit – the proposal advances the Assembly's objectives by putting forward arguments which need due consideration
- Presenter's history of interest and activity in electoral process/reform
- Other factors as the panel members may determine, consistent with the above criteria

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS:
Assembly members assigned to a public hearing will be reimbursed travel and accommodation costs consistent with government policies. Travel and accommodation arrangements are to be coordinated through Assembly staff: Cathy Stooshnov or Christine Cheung. Overnight stays following a public hearing will be reimbursed if the return trip is more than 1½ hours.

Agenda

Local Host Introduce yourself, where you live and your membership on the Assembly

Welcome members of the public, remind them to sign-in at the registration desk, if they have not already done so

Welcome and recognize presenters

Introduce fellow Assembly members

Explain the purpose of the hearing

- The Terms of Reference for the Citizens' Assembly requires consultation with British Columbians through submissions and hearings
- The Assembly is holding 49 public hearings in communities throughout BC
- These hearings are an extension of the Assembly's "learning phase"
- Having studied electoral systems for three months, Assembly members now want to understand the values, views and proposals of presenters and public
- These hearings are British Columbians' opportunity to help shape this electoral review and help Assembly members develop a recommendation on the best electoral system for BC
- The Assembly wants to engage you – the people of BC – in a dialogue about electoral options and how our values, as British Columbians, relate to the way members of the legislature are selected
- The Assembly also would like to encourage you to continue this process by engaging your fellow citizens in an ongoing dialogue about electoral reform

Review agenda for hearing

Video - introduce video, ask moderator to turn it on

Following video, take questions from the audience, involving other members

Encourage the public to complete the survey, leave it with staff or mail it in

Introduce moderator who will be responsible for managing the hearing

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

Moderator Thank the local host for the introduction and extend welcome

Introduce other members of the staff: registrar, note-taker and media liaison

Reiterate the scope of the Assembly's mandate:
- Assess models for electing Members of the Legislative Assembly that are consistent with the Constitution of Canada and the Westminster parliamentary system. This assessment is limited to the manner in which voters' ballots are translated into elected members; and must take into account the potential effect of the recommended model
- Issue a final report – by December 15, 2004 – recommending the retention of the current model or the implementation of another model

Remind all present that the Assembly is non-partisan and the purpose of these hearings is to look at how we elect our political representatives. The hearing is not to be used as a platform for praising or criticizing the current or past governments or any particular political party. We will focus solely on the best voting system for our province.

Identify the key questions/values/information Assembly members are seeking

Advise everyone that …
- Media may be present
- The hearing will be recorded and pictures may be taken
- Notes will be taken and summaries posted on the website; if necessary, presenters may request corrections to their summary
- Questions to presenters should be questions of clarification and information; there will be time after to express opinions and differing views
- All speakers should use the microphones so they can be heard
- Ask everyone to respect the views being presented
- Mention highlights of how to stay involved, indicating that more information will be shared at the end of the hearing

Advise presenters that …
- They will be allowed 10 minutes each, and will be given a one-minute warning; following each presentation, up to 10 minutes will be allowed for questions of clarification and information
- If they want their full presentation on the web, they need to provide it as a written submission, preferably in electronic format

Introduce presentations on agenda, in turn, as well as the group represented (if any) and the topic (Allow 10 minutes each; provide one-minute warning)

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

Presentation 1 (10 minutes), followed by questions (10 minutes)

Presentation 2 (10 minutes), followed by questions (10 minutes), etc

Invite other presentations from the attendees, providing an opportunity for members of the audience to formally express their values, views and suggestions – followed by public discussion

Break (5 - 10 minutes); rearrange chairs, if desired; then reconvene

Introduce informal discussion time and move into dialogue/discussion format

At the end of the meeting, outline how public can continue to be involved:
- Submissions – either online or written
- Subscribe to newsletter
- Visit the website; access the learning resources posted
- Community forums – with support from local Assembly members and staff
- Complete and mail in the survey

Thank every one for their involvement and contributions

Invite the local host to provide closing remarks

Local Host Closing remarks

Appendix: Public Hearing Briefing Notes (continued)

Questions – for British Columbians

1. What do you value in an electoral system (local representation, proportionality, voter choices)?
2. Do you want local representation?
3. What is important to you as a voter?
4. What do you value about the role of the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)?
5. Do you think we should continue with the current voting system?
6. Do you feel a change is needed in our electoral system?
7. What do you like about the current electoral system?
8. Do you want to vote for a candidate, a party or both?
9. How important is small party representation in the Legislature?
10. What is the minimum percentage of votes necessary for winning a seat in the legislature (plurality or majority)?
11. Are more representatives over a larger electoral district (that is, larger area with a greater number of voters) as good as one representative in a smaller electoral district?
12. Will a change in ballot structure (a ballot with more options) hinder or enhance voter turnout?
13. What do you hope will happen if there is a change in the electoral process?
14. How do you feel about coalition/consensual/minority governments?
15. Do you prefer a government that gets things done quickly or takes longer but makes a more consensual decision?
16. Are there circumstances where you feel your vote is wasted?
17. Do you think a winning candidate should win with less than 50% of the votes cast?
18. Would you like candidates within the same party to compete against each other? Under some electoral systems, more than one candidate from the same party can seek election within the same electoral district.
19. Do you feel immediate election results are important or are you willing to wait for a coalition government to be formed in the event of no majority party elected?
20. How do you feel about voting twice, for instance in a run-off election or would you prefer to be able to show preferences on a single ballot?
21. How do you feel about combining electoral systems, i.e. a proportional system and our current system?
22. How would you feel about voters in a different part of the province using different voting systems?
23. How do you feel about ranking candidates during the voting process?
24. Is a strong opposition important?
25. How important is it for the Legislature to be more representative of under-represented groups (women, minorities, First Nations)?
26. How important is it to have a simple ballot?
27. How important is it to have more than one choice on the ballot paper during elections?
28. Are you confident in the Citizens' Assembly process?

Appendix: Public Hearing Information for Presenters

Public Hearing Information for Presenters

Dear :

I am following up on my initial email to you regarding your request to make a presentation to the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. This email has several purposes:

- To advise you of the venue for the hearing
- To inform you of the approximate time of your presentation
- To advise you of the number of written copies to bring (see note below)
- To determine if you have any audio visual needs that we can provide
- To provide you with a copy of the mandate that guides the deliberations of the Assembly

Each presentation will be limited to 10 minutes, then followed by a 5 to 10-minute question and answer period. Some presenters may take less time, thus we would appreciate your being available in the event time becomes available. Questions will first be received from Assembly members, and if time permits, from members of the public. Every effort will be made by the facilitator to keep to these time limits. Also note, questions at this time will be questions of clarification. Dissenting views and/or comments from the public will be accepted at the end of the presentations. Please note that, time not permitting, the hearing may end without a discussion period where attendees can discuss presentations and the topic of electoral reform for BC.

The Citizens' Assembly will arrange for a lectern/podium, screen, overhead projector (if required), LCD projector and laptop. Each hearing will be supplied with a small portable PA system that will include a microphone for the presenter and two mobile microphones, one for the facilitator and another when questions are raised.

If you will need any of these audio visual items, please let us know before the hearing. If you wish to make use of the LCD projector and laptop for a PowerPoint presentation, please have your presentation on a CD-ROM. If you cannot burn your presentation on a CD-ROM, please forward a copy of your presentation to me at lperra@citizensassembly.bc.ca so that we can prepare a CD or store it on our laptop's hard drive. For this service, we should receive your presentation a week before the hearing date.

The Citizens' Assembly is prepared to print the written copies that it will require for the Assembly members and staff. If you would like us to do this, you are requested to forward an email with attachment, or a good quality printed copy to our office, a minimum of a week before the hearing.

The hearing will begin at 1:30 PM and is open to the public. Every effort to will be made to complete by 5:00 PM.

Venue for hearing:
Approximate time for your presentation:
Number of Assembly members in attendance:
Number of written copies required:
Please sign in at the registration desk.

Pasted at the end of this message is a copy of the Mandate of the Citizens' assembly. The Mandate describes the role and responsibilities of the Assembly. Presenters should be aware of its content as it outlines and limits the elements of electoral reform that the Assembly can legitimately address.

If you have any questions please contact the undersigned.

Thank you for your participation in this important electoral reform process.

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations

Individuals

Abbotsford – June 5
Harold Daykin
Karn Hann
Timothy Jones
Robert Martin
John H. Redekop
Gil Reynolds
Henry Teichrob

Burnaby – May 5
Leslie Brown
Greg Dickey
Iain Macanulty
Patrick McMullen

Chilliwack – May 18
Brenda Black
Gil Caffyn
Olaf Frost
Raymond Smith

Coquitlam – June 1
Stephen Broscoe
Drew Carmichael
Korky Day
E. Brenda Flynn
Karl Maier
Aaron Rahn
Helmut Schmidt
Greg Watrich

Courtenay – May 26
Eric Brown
Ralph Keller
Pamela Munroe
Bill Peters
Angus Ramsey
Wendy Richardson
Shirley Ward
John Wood

Cranbrook – June 21
Alan Burt
Stephen Garvey
Wilfred Hanni
Dr. William Hills
Lloyd Hodge
Walter Latter

Dawson Creek – May 13
Michael Murphey

Duncan – June 8
Robert Baker
Pat Barron
Warren Chapman
Claire Gibbs
Carol Hartwig
Guy La Flam
Julie Mander
Mike McDonald
Rick Smith
Jane Sterk
David B. Tanner
Gordon Thomas
Marilyn Weland
Julian West
Brian White
Keith Wyndlow

Fort St. John – May 12
Arthur Hadland
Fran Lavign
James Little
Ken Tontsch
Ron Wagner

Grand Forks – May 10
Jack Blower
Diana Carr
Andre Carrel
David Carter
Raymond Gaudart
Scott Leyland
Ron Liddle
David Pehota

Kamloops – June 17
Valoree Baker
Darren Blois
Don Cameron
Grant Fraser
Marc Gregoire
Anne Grube
Al Knight
J. R. (Dick) McMaster
Cameron (Cam) Murray
Arjun Singh
Robin Torpes

Kelowna – June 24
Kevin Ade
Frank Harvey-Smith
Jim Nielsen
Devra Rice
Grant Rice
Terry W. Robertson
Paddy Weston

Langley – May 20
Benno Friesen
Scott Thompson
David Truman
Andrea Welling

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Lillooet – June 16
Kim Chute
Rod Webb

Maple Ridge – May 19
Rick Benoit
Robert Hornsey
William Walsh

Merritt – June 15
Ava Dean

Nanaimo – May 27
Robert Baker
David Dunaway
Beverley Eert
Jim Erkiletian
Katherine Gordon
Hermine Hicks
Stephen McCarthy
David W.Wright
Julian West

Nelson – May 11
Hanna Hadikin
Clayton Knapp
Joyce Macdonald
Tom Prior
Donald Scarlett
Brian Zacharias

New Westminster – May 4
Charles Boylan
Robert Broughton
Harold Daykin
Don DeMill
Guy Deperreault
Terry Julian
John Vegt

North Vancouver – June 2
Lance Balcom
Paul Browning
Tom Cornwall
Herbert Grubel
David Millar
Peter Minshull
Stephen Phillips
Chris Shaw
Alison Watt

Penticton June 23
Kevin Barry
Tom Hoenisch
Brigid Kemp
David Steele

Port Alberni – June 9
Nelson Allen
Glenn Cooper
Joyce Currie
Alexander Miller
Jack Thornburgh

Port McNeill – May 25
Gerry Furney
Harry Glasswick

Powell River - May 15
Patrick Brabazon
Pat Chistie
Clancy Cross
Delores Delatorre
Helen Evans
Philip Fleischer
Patti Gibbs
Andrea Goldsmith
Guy Hawkins
Kathryn Kleinsteuber
Marilynn MacKenzie
Sasha and Ron Uhlmann

Prince George – May 10
Betty Abbs
John Alderliesten
Maxine Armstrong
Lara Beckett
Joan Chess-Woollacott
Hilary Crowley
Paul Eberlein
Virginia Karr
John Rustad

Prince Rupert – June 9
Lorraine Bugera
David Konsmo

Princeton – June 14
Harold Daykin

Queen Charlotte City – June 12
Thomas Cheney
Gerry Johnson

Quesnel – May 11
Nate Bello
Yvonne Dixon
Douglas Gook
Sarah Hilbert-West
Dave Koster
Grant Schawn
Bob Simpson

Radium – June 22
Roger Granville-Martin

Revelstoke – June 22
Debra Ducharme
Antoinette Halberstadt
Patricia Sieber

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Richmond – May 4
Gretchen Harlow
Nick Loenen
David Reay
Lucien Saumur
Bob Simpson
Neil Smith
John Waller

Salt Spring – June 19
Carol Donnelly
Ian McKinnon
Jennifer Burgis
J. Douglas Dobson
Marilyn Marshall

Sechelt – June 5
Anna Banana
Lynn Chapman
Jeff Chilton
Jim Elliot
Michael Hume
Denise Lagasse
Michael Maser
Ian and Janette McConnell
Jayun McDowell
Helen and Doug Roy
Edward Scott
Keith Thirkell
Arnet Tuffs
Alun Woolliams

Sidney/Victoria – May 15
David Buchanan
Guy Dauncey
Harold Daykin
Ben Dolf
Horst Kohne
Andrew Lewis
Walter Meyer Zu Erpen
John Alvin Pelter
Joan Russow
Bryan Schwartz
Victor Shorsky
Roy Sutherland
Patrick Thompson

Smithers – June 7
Cameron Brown
Hilda Earl
Virginia Hoover
Walter Hromatka
Alexander MacDonald
Stephen Mann
William (Bill) Miller
Dave Stevens
Ron Toews

Sparwood – June 23
Michael Clark

Surrey 1 – May 8
Carmela Clare
Steven Faraher-Amidon
Louis A. Kaufmann
Benton Mischuk
Richard Papiernik
Bill Piket
Robert Srirling
Neil Sutherland
Keith Wallace

Surrey 2 – May 31
Tom Ashley
Rick Benoit
Robert Evans
Nikolas Jeffrey
Penny Leclair
Graham Evan MacDonell
James Proctor
Robert Rondeau
Robert Stone
Wayne Taylor
Alan Webster

Terrace – June 8
Henry Dreger
Betty Geier
Val George
John Hart
Keith Olson
Lars Reese Hansen
Reg Stowell

Ucluelet – May 15
Greg Blanchette
Jeff Chilton
Ken Faris
Jayun McDowell

Valemount – May 8
Roger Beck
Steve Burchnall
John Grogan
Roy Howard
Edwin Jones
Frank Kiyooka
David Marchant

Vancouver 1 – May 3
Alex Boston
Judy Darcy
Joel DeYoung
Peter Rastall

Vancouver 2 – May 29
John Dennison
Tim Howard
Karin Litzcke
David Mills
Andrea Reimer
John A. West

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Janet Wiegand
Doug Wright

Vancouver 3 – June 12

Arpal Dosanjh
Robert Everton
Roy Grinshpan
Mebrat Kebede
Bruce Krayenhoff
Reimar Kroecher
Matthew Laird
Mark Latham
William Lim
Garry Nixon
Sam Sullivan
Neil Sutherland
Alex Tunner

Vernon – June 21

Len Bawtree
Robert Dubois
Basil Edwards
Bruce Gurnsey
David Hart
Brenda Hitchen
David Jackson
Bjorn and Ruth Meyer
Dave Nordstrom
Dirk Pereboom
Anthony Plourde

Victoria – June 10

Josephine-Doman
Dave Flavell
Ken Frenette
David B. Godfrey
Sylvia Korican
Jim McDermott
Al Redford
Donald Scott
Michael Wheatley
Rob Wipond

Whistler – June 3

Myson Effa
Sara Jennings
Rupert Merer
Doug Morrison
Perron Stephane

Williams Lake – June 19

Pat Adams
Bruce Mack
John Pickford
Tom Salley
Victor M. Young

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Organizations

Abbotsford - June 5
Hope and Fraser Valley Movement for Empowerment, Dorothy-Jean O'Donnell

Burnaby - May 5
BC Association of the Deaf-Blind, Monique McDonald
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Andrea Wiebe
Center for Collaborative Democracy [New York], Sol Erdman

Chilliwack - May 18
Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada, Dorothy-Jean O'Donnell
Courtenay/Comox - May 26
Council of Canadians, Comox Valley Chapter, Gwyn Frayne

Cranbrook - June 21
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Carol Patton
Council of Canadians, East Kootenay Chapter, Vine Madder

Dawson Creek - May 13
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Polly Anne Mormon
Peace River Regional District, Fred Banham

Duncan - June 8
Conservation Voters of BC, Matthew Price

Fort Nelson - May 11
City of Fort Nelson, Chris Morey

Fort St John - May 12
Peace River Regional District, Fred Banham

Grand Forks - May 10
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Barbie Kalmakoff
Detax Canada, Vern L.Rexin

Kamlooops - June 17
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Allison McMillan
New Democratic Party of British Columbia, Carole James
Peoples Voice Coalition, Tony Brumell
United People' s Action Party, Ernie Schmidt

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Kelowna - June 24
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Rae Stonehouse
Communist Party of Canada, Mark Haley

Langley - May 20
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Kathrine Churchill
Committee for Voting Equity in BC, Max Anderson

Lillooet - June 16
Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada, Dorothy-Jean O'Donnell

Nanaimo - May 27
Nanaimo-Cowichan Greens, Norman Abbey

Nelson - May 11
British Columbia Nurses' Union, Colleen Driscoll
Canadian Taxpayers Federation, Troy Lanigan
Green Party of BC, Colleen McCrory
New Democratic Party, Nelson-Creston Constituency Association, Patricia Lakes
Village of New Denver, Gary Wright
West Kootenay EcoSociety, John Alton

New Westminster - May 4
Caretaker Movement C.O.U., John A West
T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation, David Lane

North Vancouver - June 2
B.C.Government and Service Employees' Union, George Heyman
Reform Party of BC, Ron Gamble
Rockridge Secondary School, Paula Waatainen

Penticton - June 23
Raging Grannies, Cass Robinson

Port Alberni - June 9
New Democratic Party, Nanaimo-Alberni Federal Riding Association, Scott Fraser

Port McNeill - May 25
New Democratic Party, Vancouver Island North, Catherine Bell

Powell River - May 15
Raging Grannies

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

Prince George - May 10

BC Democratic Futures Party, Chad Bester
Value Vote, William (Bill) Barnes

Quesnel - May 11

Active Voice Coalition, Peter Ewart

Richmond - May 4

Caretaker Movement C.O.U., John A. West

Salt Spring Island - June 19

Canadian Taxpayers Federation, Sara MacIntyre
Raging Grannies, Marg Simons
Pro Rep Initiative and the Green Party BC, Andrew Lewis

Sidney/Victoria - May 15

Canadian Unitarian Council Study Group on International Affairs and Democracy, Ben Dolf,
Council of Canadians, Victoria Chapter, Saul Arbess

Smithers - June 7

Green Party of Canada, Federal Candidate, Roger Benham
Christian Heritage Party, George Koopmans

Sparwood - June 23

British Columbia Nurses' Union, Joan Halverson

Surrey 1 - May 8

Caretaker Movement C.O.U., John A. West

Surrey 2 - May 31

Caretaker Movement C.O.U., John A. West

Vancouver 1 - May 3

Committee for Voting Equity in BC, Max Anderson
Green Party of BC, Adriane Carr
Green Party of BC, Vancouver-Hastings, Ian Gregson
Sierra Legal Defence Fund, Mitch Anderson

Vancouver 2 - May 29

Caretaker Movement C.O.U., John A. West
Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local 378, David Black

Appendix: List of Presenters and Organizations (continued)

VANCOUVER 3 - JUNE 12
The Fraser Institute, Jason Clemens
Vancouver Board of Trade, Dave Park,
West Coast Environmental Law, Nancy Klenavic

VERNON - JUNE 21
Council of Canadians, Vernon Chapter, Norman Jaques

VICTORIA - JUNE 10
Children of Eternity, David Piney
Fair Vote Canada, Bruce Hallsor
Green Party of BC, Adriane Carr
New Democratic Party, Victoria Federal Riding Association, David Turner

Appendix: Written Submissions

Individuals

A

Abacus, Alex - Vancouver BC (ABACUS-0123)

Abrams, Judith - Vancouver BC (ABRAMS-1584)

Achbar, Mark - Vancouver BC (ACHBAR-0569)

Adair, William - Ladysmith BC (ADAIR-0586), (ADAIR-1397)

Adam, Hal - Mill Bay BC (ADAM-0117)

Adam, Neil - Gabriola Island BC (ADAM-1632)

Adams, Deron - Vernon BC (ADAMS-0782)

Adams, Neale - Vancouver BC (ADAMS-1387)

Adams, Pat - Quesnel BC (ADAMS-0853)

Adams, Patrick - Lone Butte BC (ADAMS-0806)

Adolph, Christine C - Vanderhoof BC (ADOLPH-1559)

Affleck, Carolyn - Vancouver BC (AFFLECK-0897)

Aiken, Ed - Cobble Hill BC (AIKEN-0121)

Aitken, Don - Kelowna BC (AITKEN-1160)

Albert, Karin - Vancouver BC (ALBERT-1329)

Alexander, Charlene - New Denver BC (ALEXANDER-0312)

Alexander, Rob - North Vancouver BC (ALEXANDER-1319)

Alford, Jessica - North Saanich BC (ALFORD-0741)

Allan, Mary - Creston BC (ALLAN-0176)

Allard, Crispin - Farnborough England UK (ALLARD -0485)

Allden, Frances - Couitlam BC (ALLDEN-0726)

Allin, Jennifer - Nanaimo BC (ALLIN-0255)

Allington, Robert Chair BC Democratic Alliance Policy and Communications - Victoria BC (ALLINGTON-1250)

Alpen, Doug - Victoria BC (ALPEN-1585)

Alta, A - Vancouver BC (ALTA-0684)

Ames, John - Vancouver BC (AMES-1248)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Amyoony, Pete - Dunster BC (AMYOONY-0301)

Anderson, Barry - Langley BC (ANDERSON-1438)

Anderson, Christopher - Vancouver BC (ANDERSON-0038)

Anderson, Doris - Toronto Ontario (ANDERSON-1639)

Anderson, Judith - Burnaby BC (ANDERSON-0648)

Anderson, Lars - Vancouver BC (ANDERSON-1463)

Anderson, Mark - Northampton Massachusetts USA (ANDERSON-1027)

Anderson, Maxwell - Vancouver BC (ANDERSON-1635)

Arbess, Saul Dr - Victoria BC (ARBESS-1031)

Archibald, Joan and George - Victoria BC (ARCHIBALD-0605)

Arcus, Peter L - Vancouver BC (ARCUS-1364)

Armstrong, Errin - Vancouver BC (ARMSTRONG-0071)

Armstrong, Thomas - Winlaw BC (ARMSTRONG-0421)

Arndt, Kris - Vancouver BC (ARNDT-1101)

Ashdown, Ken - Vancouver BC (ASHDOWN-0063)

Ashley, Pearl - Victoria BC (ASHLEY-1045)

Ashton, Stephen - Tofino BC (ASHTON-0473)

Atkinson, Harry F - Saanichton BC (ATKINSON-0400)

Atkinson, Susan - Vancouver BC (ATKINSON-1586)

Azevedo, Barry - Langley BC (AZEVEDO-0438)

B

Backus, Glen - Nelson BC (BACKUS-0672)

Backus, Gretchen - Nelson BC (BACKUS-0701)

Bailey, D - Ladysmith BC (BAILEY-0570)

Baker, Jim - Shawnigan Lake BC (BAKER-0191), (BAKER-0999)

Baker, Louella - Quathiaski Cove BC (BAKER-0457)

Baker, Robert - Nanaimo BC (BAKER-0040)

Baker, Tom - Victoria BC (BAKER-0555)

Bakker, Herman - Vancouver BC (BAKKER-0155)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Balabanov, Olive - Burnaby BC (BALABANOV-0172)
Ball, Roy - Nelson BC (BALL-0049), (BALL-0294)
Banana, Anna - Roberts Creek BC (BANANA-0479)
Bancroft, David - Vancouver BC (BANCROFT-0161), (BANCROFT-0962)
Bandcroft, Janine - Victoria BC (BANDCROFT-0599)
Bangay, Alan - Sechelt BC (BANGAY-0205), (BANGAY-0307), (BANGAY-1097)
Barnes, Nancy - Victoria BC (BARNES-1533)
Barrett, Helen - Coquitlam BC (BARRETT-0329)
Barrett, Michael - Port Coquitlam BC (BARRETT-0237)
Bartosh, Glenda and Peter Lisicin - White Rock BC (BARTOSH AND LISICIN-1466)
Basak, Bijan - Vancouver BC (BASAK-0412)
Bateman, Christopher Andrew - Westbank BC (BATEMAN-0009)
Bates, Alan - Salmon Arm BC (BATES-1090)
Baubien, Paul - Victoria BC (BAUBIEN-0004)
Bauman, Marshall - West Vancouver BC (BAUMAN-0721)
Bazett, Jennifer - Vancouver BC (BAZETT-0243)
Beagley, Sandra - Victoria BC (BEAGLEY-0253)
Beattie, Margaret - Princeton BC (BEATTIE-0533)
Beatty, David Professor - Toronto Ontario (BEATTY-0135)
Beaulieu, Lesley - Parksville BC (BEAULIEU-0456)
Beckett, Lara - Prince George BC (BECKETT-0257), (BECKETT-1210)
Bednarski, Michael - North York Ontario (BEDNARSKI-0104), (BEDNARSKI-0465)
Bedo, Anita - Burnaby BC (BEDO-1138)
Beech, Robert - Burnaby BC (BEECH-0386)
Belak, Kaleb - Dawson Creek BC (BELAK-1511)
Belak, Marilyn City Councillor - Dawson Creek BC (BELAK-0222), (BELAK-0947)
Belanger, Ray - Victoria BC (BELANGER-0531)
Beliveau, Wes - Cache Creek (BELIVEAU-0022)
Bell, Kevin and Patricia Mason - North Vancouver BC (BELL AND MASON-0682)
Bell, Louise - Denman Island BC (BELL-0385)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Belleville, Gary - Victoria BC (BELLEVILLE-0357)

Benham, Chris - Adelaide South Australia (BENHAM-1588)

Bennett, Dale - Campbell River BC (BENNET-0003)

Bennett, Shannon - Winlaw BC (BENNETT-0952)

Benoit, Rick - Surrey BC (BENOIT-0529)

Benson, Bradley J - Gibsons BC (BENSON-1372)

Berdan, Jeanne - Lillooet BC (BERDAN-0696)

Berghofer, Desmond - Vancouver BC (BERGHOFER-0122), (BERGHOFER-0126)

Bergman, Frederick - White Rock BC (BERGMAN-1094)

Bergquist, Larry - White Rock BC (BERGQUIST-0285)

Bernhart, Andy - Victoria BC (BERNHART-0472)

Berry, Alastair Dr - Nanaimo BC (BERRY-0194)

Berry, Michael - Qualicum Beach BC (BERRY-0781)

Bester, Chad - Prince George BC (BESTER-0028)

Bester, Chad - Prince George BC (BESTER-0213), (BESTER-0858)

Bhalla, Barbara - Victoria BC (BHALLA-0758)

Bielski, Barbara - Vancouver BC (BIELSKI-0864)

Bierley, John - Victoria BC (BIERLEY-0585)

Biggs, Dave - Vancouver BC (BIGGS-1589)

Billy, Mary E - Squamish BC (BILLY-0299), (BILLY-0656)

Bingel, Hans - Mallorytown Ontario (BINGEL-0079)

Birney, William - Victoria BC (BIRNEY-1268)

Blacoe, David - Victoria BC (BLACOE-0379)

Blair, Conor - Smithers BC (BLAIR-0702)

Blok, Henry - Maple Ridge BC (BLOK-0212)

Bohmert, Helga - Delta BC (BOHMERT-0361)

Boldt, Cliff - Union Bay BC (BOLDT-1086)

Bolstad, Theo - Prince George BC (BOLSTAD-0368)

Bond, Kenneth - Enderby BC (BOND-1126)

Bonnett, Penelope - New Denver BC (BONNETT-0540)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Bonnor, Michael - Ucluelet BC (BONNOR-1590)

Booiman, Suan - White Rock BC (BOOIMAN-0129)

Boon, Sarah - Victoria BC (BOON-0274)

Boon, Sonja - Vancouver BC (BOON-1256)

Booth, Laverne M - Winlaw BC (BOOTH-0374)

Booy, Miriam - Langley BC (BOOY-0124)

Borle, Arthur - Cranbrook BC (BORLE-0470)

Boss, Arno - Victoria BC (BOSS-0521)

Boston, Alex - Vancouver BC (BOSTON-0272)

Bouchard, Claire and E - Sidney BC (BOUCHARD-1502)

Boucher, James - Vancouver BC (BOUCHER-1008)

Boucher, Sarah - Vancouver BC (BOUCHER-0725), (BOUCHER-0974)

Boulton, Kory - Victoria BC (BOULTON-0571)

Bouman, Daniel - Gibsons BC (BOUMAN-1068)

Bourassa, Louise - Victoria BC (BOURASSA-1346)

Bouricius, Terrill - Burlington Vermont USA (BOURICIUS-0228)

Bourne, Alan - Creston BC (BOURNE-0174)

Bowers, A. Edward - Victoria BC (BOWERS-0803)

Bowers, Chris - Gabriola Island BC (BOWERS-1109)

Bowes, Marc - Victoria BC (BOWES-0562)

Bowes, Nathan - Nelson BC (BOWES-0391)

Bowles, Paul - Fruitvale BC (BOWLES-1544)

Boyce, Richard - Errington BC (BOYCE-1038)

Boychuk, Lorraine - Burns Lake BC (BOYCHUK-1376), (BOYCHUK-0628)

Bradfield, Margaret - Courtenay BC (BRADFIELD-0167)

Bradford, Judith - Winlaw BC (BRADFORD-1289)

Bramson, Lisa - Nelson BC (BRAMSON-0314), (BRAMSON-1251)

Braumandl, Tom - Nelson BC (BRAUMANDL-1152)

Brauss, Helmut Professor Emeritus - Victoria BC (BRAUSS-1473)

Breckon, Maureen - West Vancouver BC (BRECKON-1562)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Brekke, Dave and Irene - Whitehorse Yukon (BREKKE-0017)

Bremmer, Fred - Vancouver BC (BREMMER-0170), (BREMMER-1022)

Brennan, Casey - Fernie BC (BRENNAN-1244)

Brenneisen, Paul - Dunster BC (BRENNEISEN-1367)

Brenton, Dallin - Nanoose BC (BRENTON-0661)

Breuer, Alfred J - Vanderhoof BC (BREUER-1548)

Breuer, Nicole - Kamloops BC (BREUER-1545)

Brick, Reg - Victoria BC (BRICK-0763)

Brooks, Susan - Courtenay BC (BROOKS-1055)

Broomhall, Arthur - North Vancouver BC (BROOMHALL-0815)

Broten, Delores - Whaletown BC (BROTEN-0319)

Broughton, Robert - New Westminster BC (BROUGHTON-1089)

Brown, Carole Ann Dr - Nanaimo BC (BROWN-0513), (BROWN-0819)

Brown, Douglas S - Vancouver BC (BROWN-1457)

Brown, Eric - Campbell River BC (BROWN-0517)

Brown, Ian D - Victoria BC (BROWN-1510)

Brown, Les - Vancouver BC (BROWN-1572)

Bruiger, Dan - Hornby Island BC (BRUIGER-0316)

Brundige, Mel - Prince George BC (BRUNDIGE-0140)

Brunham, Albert - Creston BC (BRUNHAM-1409)

Brus, Kori - Vancouver BC (BRUS-0951)

Bryan, Lisa - Cumberland BC (BRYAN-0404)

Bryan, Marion - Qualicum Beach BC (BRYAN-1420)

Brynlee, Diana - Duncan BC (BRYNLEE-1279), (BRYNLEE-1366)

Buchanan, Matthew - Cranbrook BC (BUCHANAN-0660)

Buick, Ruby - Okanagan Centre BC (BUICK-1515)

Buller, David - Winlaw BC (BULLER-0313)

Bunting, Kelly - Vancouver BC (BUNTING-0269)

Burbidge, M - Princeton BC (BURBIDGE-0824)

Burd, Martha - Victoria BC (BURD-1119)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Bures-Leslie, Barbara - Victoria BC (BURES-LESLIE-1246)

Burgerjon, Jessie - Halfmoon Bay BC (BURGERJON-0426)

Burgerjon, Joop - Halfmoon Bay BC (BURGERJON-0425)

Burgerjon, Paula - Vancouver BC (BURGERJON-0455)

Burgess, Debora - Kamloops BC (BURGESS-0610)

Burgess, Montana - Kamloops BC (BURGESS-0560)

Burgess, Robert - Maple Ridge BC (BURGESS-0551)

Burgess, Thomas - Sooke BC (BURGESS-0624)

Burke, Patrick - Fernie BC (BURKE-0885)

Burkosky, Cathy - Port Alberni BC (BURKOSKY-1386)

Burnett, Bruce - Ladysmith BC (BURNETT-0940)

Burritt, Paul - North Vancouver BC (BURRITT-1165)

Burrows, Mae - Vancouver BC (BURROWS-1591)

Busby, J E - Port Alberni BC (BUSBY-1518)

Bussey, Todd - Vancouver BC (BUSSEY-1633)

Butchart, Brian - Kelowna BC (BUTCHART-0659)

Butcher, George - Sooke BC (BUTCHER-1063)

Butler, Maureen - Langley BC (BUTLER-0706)

Butt, David - Creston BC (BUTT-1592)

Buttenham, Trevor - Kelowna BC (BUTTENHAM-0727)

Byers, Robert - Victoria BC (BYERS-0820)

Byers, Robert A - Sooke BC (BYERS-1492)

Byrne, Katharina - Vancouver BC (BYRNE-1249)

C

Cail, Edward - Victoria BC (CAIL-0014)

Callahan, Cynthia - Victoria BC (CALLAHAN-1026)

Callihoo, Christine - Vancouver BC (CALLIHOO-0210)

Callis, Gusti - Nelson BC (CALLIS-0315)

Cameron, Donna - Duncan BC (CAMERON-0468)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Cameron, Margaret - Salmon Arm BC (CAMERON-1113)

Cameron, Sandy - Salmon Arm BC (CAMERON-1076), (CAMERON-1114)

Campbell, Alexander M - Kelowna BC (CAMPBELL-1431)

Campbell, JoAnne - Campbell River BC (CAMPBELL-0417)

Canil, Leslie - Tahsis BC (CANIL-1481)

Carberry, Ronald - Duncan BC (CARBERRY-0671)

Careless, Ric - Gibsons BC (CARELESS-1067)

Carlsen, Shawn - New Westminster BC (CARLSEN-0634)

Carlson, Karl S. - Gabriola Island BC (CARLSON-0179)

Carmichael, Craig - Victoria BC (CARMICHAEL-0027)

Carmichael, Drew - Richmond BC (CARMICHAEL-0165)

Carmichael, Jeff - Vancouver BC (CARMICHAEL-1195)

Carpay, Antoinette - Lumby BC (CARPAY-0143), (CARPAY-0992)

Carpay, Ria - Vernon BC (CARPAY-0145), CARPAY-0994)

Carpenter, Patricia - Quathiaski Cove BC (CARPENTER-0519)

Carr, Adriane Leader Green Party of BC - Gibsons BC (CARR-0287), (CARR-1358), (CARR-0635)

Carr, Diana - Christina Lake BC (CARR-0366)

Carrel, Andre - Rossland BC (CARREL-0375)

Carrier, Orion - Victoria BC (CARRIER-0559)

Carson, Elizabeth - Victoria BC (CARSON-0695)

Carter, Dave - Castlegar BC (CARTER-1202)

Carter, John F - Burnaby BC (CARTER-1167)

Carter, Peter - Pender Island BC (CARTER-0996)

Carter, Theresa - Castlegar BC (CARTER-1216)

Carvell, Suzanne - Bowen Island BC (CARVELL-0939)

Cassidyne-Hook, Michael - Kelowna BC (CASSIDYNE-HOOK-0733)

Castle-Jansch, Patricia - Victoria BC (CASTLE-JANSCH-0229)

Cave, William - Victoria BC (CAVE-1033)

Caviness, John - Victoria BC (CAVINESS-0794)

Chambers, Brad - Iqaluit Nunavut (CHAMBERS-0779)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Chambers, Donald A - Brentwood Bay BC (CHAMBERS-0575)

Chambers, Elizabeth - Brentwood Bay BC (CHAMBERS-0587)

Chant, John - Delta BC (CHANT-0771)

Charles-Lundaahl, Laurence - Burton BC (CHARLES-LUNDAAHL-1335)

Chattaway, Alan - Surrey BC (CHATTAWAY-0115)

Chilton, Jeff - Roberts Creek BC (CHILTON-0053), (CHILTON-0054), (CHILTON-0980),

Chilton, Jeff Chair FreeYourVote Society - Gibsons BC (CHILTON-0558)

Chu, Bill - Vancouver BC (CHU-1116)

Chute, Kim - Lillooet BC (CHUTE-1571)

Clair, Roberta - North Vancouver BC (CLAIR-0260)

Clare, Carmela - White Rock BC (CLARE-0293)

Clark, Michael - Fernie BC (CLARK-1424)

Clark, Rod - Quathiaski Cove BC (CLARK-1653)

Clarke, Susan - Victoria BC (CLARKE-1337)

Cleary, Jaclyn - Coquitlam BC (CLEARY-1153)

Cochran, Doug - Vancouver BC (COCHRAN-1576)

Colby, Kathryn - Vancouver BC (COLBY-0942)

Collins, David - Vancouver BC (COLLINS-0254)

Collinson, Herbert - Vancouver BC (COLLINSON-1421)

Colman, Denise - Powell River BC (COLMAN-1479)

Connell, Chase - Prince George BC (CONNELL-0227)

Connon, Jim - Kamloops BC (CONNON-1578)

Conroy, Patrick - Delta BC (CONROY-0091)

Cook, Nigel - Victoria BC (COOK-0520)

Cooke, Steven - New Denver BC (COOKE-1560)

Cooper, Barbara - Port Alberni BC (COOPER-0262)

Cooper, Glenn - Parksville BC (COOPER -0446)

Cooperman, Aaron - Clearwater BC (COOPERMAN-1258)

Cooperman, James - Chase BC (COOPERMAN-1237)

Cornwall, Gordon - North Vancouver BC (CORNWALL-1147)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Cornwall, Tom - North Vancouver BC (CORNWALL-1242)

Cowie, Jocelyn W - Grand Forks BC (COWIE-0363)

Cowley, Gary - Surrey BC (COWLEY-0007)

Craighead, Alastair - Victoria BC (CRAIGHEAD-1023)

Craik, Jennifier - Kelowna BC (CRAIK-0708)

Crane, Bob - Victoria BC (CRANE-0475)

Crebo, Diane - Cherryville BC (CREBO-0700)

Crebo, Joan - Cherryville BC (CREBO-0439)

Crenna, Diane - Denman Island BC (CRENNA-0724)

Crockett, Bob - Coquitlam BC (CROCKETT-0813)

Crothall, David - Victoria BC (CROTHALL-1270)

Crowley, Hilary - Summit Lake BC (CROWLEY-0288)

Cuff, Nikolas - New Westminster BC (CUFF-0793)

Cullen, Kathleen - Campbell River BC (CULLEN-1413)

Cunningham, D A - Vancouver BC (CUNNINGHAM-0200)

Cunningham, James - Vancouver BC (CUNNINGHAM-1273)

Cunningham, Sarah - Prince George BC (CUNNINGHAM-0259)

Currie, Donald Chair Canadians for Peace and Socialism - Slocan BC (CURRIE-1271)

Currie, Robert H - Vancouver BC (CURRIE-0232)

Currie, Susan - Fort Langley BC (CURRIE-0742)

Cursons, David - Cawston BC (CURSONS-1065)

Curtis, Russ - North Vancouver BC (CURTIS-1136)

D

Dahl, Hilda - Victoria BC (DAHL-1537)

Dakin, Chris - Victoria BC (DAKIN-1422)

Dalgarno, Charles - Victoria BC (DALGARNO-0209)

Dancer, Eroca - Pender Island BC (DANCER-1656)

Daniel, Betty N - New Denver BC (DANIEL-1520)

Daniels, Charles Professor Emeritus - Vancouver BC (DANIELS-0909)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Dason, Anthony - Victoria BC (DASON-0595)

Davidoff, Leon - Crescent Valley BC (DAVIDOFF-0539)

Davis, Caspar - Victoria BC (DAVIS-0055)

Davis, Neil Campbell - Burnaby BC (DAVIS-0502)

Dawes, Jennifer - Victoria BC (DAWES-0591)

Dawson, Rita - Ladysmith BC (DAWSON-0810), (DAWSON-1321)

Day, Eric M - Burton BC (DAY-1555)

Day, Korky - Vancouver BC (DAY-1390)

Day, Wilfred A - Port Hope Ontario (DAY-1203), (DAY-1667)

Daykin, Harold C - Surrey BC (DAYKIN-0190), (DAYKIN-1434), (DAYKIN-1659)

de Jong, Adrian - Nanaimo BC (DE JONG-0827)

de Leeuw, Adrianus Dionys - Terrace BC (DE LEEUW-0286)

de Trey, Anicca - Manson's Landing BC (DE TREY-0279)

de Vries, Frits - Vancouver BC (DE VRIES-1401)

Dean, Ava - Merritt BC (DEAN-0183)

Dean, Geoff - Surrey BC (DEAN-0481)

Dean, R R - North Vancouver BC (DEAN-1444)

Deane, Ian - Nelson BC (DEANE-0050)

Decurtins, Alois - Burnaby BC (DECURTINS-0103)

Defalque, John - Ziyang Sichuan Province China (DEFALQUE-1123)

Del Villano, Gary - Victoria BC (DEL VILLANO-1297)

Deller, May - Victoria BC (DELLER-0673)

Delos Reyes, Laarni - Burnaby BC (DELOS REYES-1193)

Dempsey, Jessica - Vancouver BC (DEMPSEY-1261)

Denomey, Brian - Kamloops BC (DENOMEY-1051)

d'Eon, Brian - Nelson BC (D' EON-0060)

Desjardins, Louis - Belleville Ontario (DESJARDINS-0024), (DESJARDINS-0042)

DeWolfe, Jill - Victoria BC (DEWOLFE-0654), (DEWOLFE-0985)

Dichmont, Elizabeth - Victoria BC (DICHMONT-1005)

Dickin, John - New Westminster BC (DICKIN-1252)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Diers, Gary - Argenta BC (DIERS-0378)

Dietzfelbinger, Christoph - Smithers BC (DIETZFELBINGER-1640)

Disraeli, Skylark - Kamloops BC (DISRAELI-0463)

Divine, Michael - New Westminster BC (DIVINE-1343)

Divine, Michael - New Westminster BC (DIVINE-1593)

Divine, Michael - New Westminster BC (DIVINE-1665)

Dobie, Tyler - Kaslo BC (DOBIE-1052)

Dobson, Diane - Victoria BC (DOBSON-1295)

Dobson, J Douglas - Salt Spring Island BC (DOBSON-0100), (DOBSON-1374), (DOBSON-1379), (DOBSON-1637)

Doe, Nick - Gabriola Island BC (DOE-1443)

Donegan, Doris - Honeymoon Bay BC (DONEGAN-0532)

Douglas, Tanis - Vancouver BC (DOUGLAS-0735)

Dreger, Henry - Terrace BC (DREGER-0593)

du Temple, Evan - New Westminster BC (DU TEMPLE-0175)

Dubois, Patrick - Vancouver BC (DUBOIS-0211)

Dubois, Rob - Shuswap BC (DUBOIS-0029)

Dunaway, David S - Nanaimo BC (DUNAWAY-0862)

Duncan, Graeme Dr - Vancouver BC (DUNCAN-1345)

Duncan, Ian - Salmon Arm BC (DUNCAN-1468)

Duncan, Tom - Duncan BC (DUNCAN-0716)

Duperreault, Guy - New Westminster BC (DUPERREAULT-0215)

Durand, Ryan - Christina Lake BC (DURAND-0837)

Durie, Helen - Victoria BC (DURIE-0142)

Dyck, Sharon - Sicamous BC (DYCK-1651)

Dykstra, Pamela - Nelson BC (DYKSTRA-1148)

E

Eastman, Michel - Nelson BC (EASTMAN-0503)

Ebrahimzadeh, Azim - Burnaby BC (EBRAHIMZADEH-0395)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Eckgren, Betty - Victoria BC (ECKGREN-0226)
Edgar, Tricia - North Vancouver BC (EDGAR-0710)
Eert, Beverley - Nanaimo BC (EERT-0244)
Eert, Will - Nanaimo BC (EERT-0642)
Egan, Michael - Cranbrook BC (EGAN-1415)
Ehman, Quintin - Sooke BC (EHMAN-1211)
Elder, R G and Brenda - Winlaw BC (ELDER-1509)
Eldstrom, Helen - Windermere BC (ELDSTROM-0906)
Elliott, Mike - Grand Forks BC (ELLIOTT-0546)
Elliott, Peter - Duncan BC (ELLIOTT-0441)
Eloise, Rowena - Argenta BC (ELOISE-1549)
Elophe, Gilbert G F - Port-Coquitlam BC (ELOPHE-0208), (ELOPHE-1106)
Emerson, Peter Director The de Borda Institute - Belfast Northern Ireland UK (EMERSON-0093)
Engel, Donald J - Selkirk Manitoba (ENGEL-0873)
Englund, Krista - Coquitlam BC (ENGLUND-1125)
Enns, Marty - Kelowna BC (ENNS-0707)
Enock, Muriel J - Saanichton BC (ENOCK-1552)
Erdman, Sol - New York New York USA (ERDMAN-0141)
Etzkorn, Jacob - Nanaimo BC (ETZKORN-0669)
Eustace, Ronan - Victoria BC (EUSTACE-1130)
Evans, Catherine - Vancouver BC (EVANS-1120)
Everts, Tammy - Vancouver BC (EVERTS-1091)
Ewald, Manfred and Waltraud - North Delta BC (EWALD-1375)
Ewashen, Alex - Creston BC (EWASHEN-0310)
Exner, Joseph G - Kamloops BC (EXNER-1433)
Eyre, Susan - Slocan Park BC (EYRE-0311)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

F

Facon, Michel - Vancouver BC (FACON-0429)

Fairley, Peter - Victoria BC (FAIRLEY-1078)

Farr, Lisa - Winlaw BC (FARR-0392)

Ferguson, Dave - Courtenay BC (FERGUSON-1019)

Ferguson, Greg - Surrey BC (FERGUSON-1084)

Ferguson, Tracey Leigh - Vancouver BC (FERGUSON-0552)

Ferrier, Jake - Vancouver BC (FERRIER-1137)

Finigan, Kimball - Vancouver BC (FINIGAN-0714)

Fisher-Bradley, Jen and Stephen - Victoria BC (FISHER-BRADLEY-0792)

Fisk, Barbara - Salmon Arm BC (FISK-0235)

Flavell, Dave - Victoria BC (FLAVELL-0644)

Fleischer, Philip - Powell River BC (FLEISCHER-0444)

Flett, Gordon - Vancouver BC (FLETT-1122)

Flower, Ja-son - Vancouver BC (FLOWER-0976)

Fontaine, Daniel - New Westminster BC (FONTAINE-0783)

Foot, Paula - Duncan BC (FOOT-0442)

Foote, Vic - Saanichton BC (FOOTE-1357)

Forbes, Rachel - Burnaby BC (FORBES-0908)

Foreman, Cynthia - Victoria BC (FOREMAN-0553)

Forhan, Nancy M - Richmond BC (FORHAN-1563)

Fortin, Julia - Courtenay BC (FORTIN-0494)

Fortington, Tom - Tofino BC (FORTINGTON-0484)

Fowle, Gary - Maple Ridge BC (FOWLE-0110)

Fowler, Baron - Salt Spring Island BC (FOWLER-1567)

Fox, Liz - Lantzville BC (FOX-0461)

Franske, Kirk - Powell River BC (FRANSKE-1477)

Fraser, John Dr - Victoria BC (FRASER-0975), (FRASER-0289)

Fraser, Linda - Victoria BC (FRASER-1292)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Fraser, Steve - Midway BC (FRASER-1048)

Fraser, Wayne - Salt Spring Island BC (FRASER-0730)

Freed, Jasmine - Vancouver BC (FREED-1182)

Freed, Keren - Vancouver BC (FREED-1039)

Fricker, Stanley A - Surrey BC (FRICKER-1482)

Frinton, Peter - Bowen Island BC (FRINTON-1406)

Frisk, Trudy - Kamloops BC (FRISK-1553)

Frith, Margaret - Sidney BC (FRITH-0953)

Frost, Olaf - Chilliwack BC (FROST-0016)

Fry, James - Victoria BC (FRY-0298), (FRY-1012)

Fugard, Ross - Victoria BC (FUGARD-0554)

Fuge, Lee - Victoria BC (FUGE-0981)

Fugger, Ryan - Vancouver BC (FUGGER-0130), (FUGGER-1419)

Fulford, Joyce - Vancouver BC (FULFORD-0799)

Fuller, John - Victoria BC (FULLER-1266)

Furlong, Kathryn - Vancouver BC (FURLONG-1264)

Furney, Gerry Mayor of Port McNeill - Port McNeill BC (FURNEY-0676)

Furrer, Armin - Powell River BC (FURRER-0419)

Futter, Debbie - Victoria BC (FUTTER-0178)

G

Gagnon, Louise - Sidney BC (GAGNON-1239)

Galon, Anna - Victoria BC (GALON-1316)

Gamache, Rene - Cranbrook BC (GAMACHE-0766)

Gamble, David Edward - Thamesmead London England UK (GAMBLE-0278)

Gamble, Ron Leader Reform Party of BC - North Vancouver BC (GAMBLE-0626)

Gardiner, David and Yvonne Grohuller - Vancouver BC (GARDINER AND GROHULLER-0433)

Garnett, Jean President - Richmond BC (GARNETT-0345)

Gartshore, Ian E - Nanaimo BC (GARTSHORE-0398)

Gaudart, Raymond - Rossland BC (GAUDART-0059)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Gaudet, Bernard - Victoria BC (GAUDET-0273)

Gaunt, Sheila - Victoria BC (GAUNT-1290)

Gaylord, Judy - Victoria BC (GAYLORD-0612)

Gazeley, Simon - Bath England UK (GAZELEY-0217)

Gee, Charles - Masset BC (GEE-0518)

Gehry, Christopher - North Vancouver BC (GEHRY-0731)

Gentry, J L - Maple Ridge BC (GENTRY-1525)

Geoghegan, Sharon - Campbell River BC (GEOGHEGAN-0495)

George, Jon - New Westminster BC (GEORGE-0643), (GEORGE-0971)

George, Kallie - Vancouver BC (GEORGE-0136)

George, Paul Director Free Your Vote - Pro Rep Society - Gibsons BC (GEORGE-1347)

Gilbert, Ian F - Victoria BC (GILBERT-1447)

Gilbert, Janis - South Slocan BC (GILBERT-0622)

Gilfillan, Micheal - Thrums BC (GILFILLAN-1324)

Gill, Arnold Dr - Errington BC (GILL-0711)

Gillis, Jim - Comox BC (GILLIS-0584)

Gilmour, James Dr - Edinburgh Scotland UK (GILMOUR-0795), (GILMOUR-1283), (GILMOUR-1332)

Gintowt, Michael - Kimberley BC (GINTOWT-0865)

Giza, Ray M - Sechelt BC (GIZA-0045), (GIZA-0199), (GIZA-1650), (GIZA-1128), (GIZA-1363)

Glaim, Darlene - Smithers BC (GLAIM-0790)

Glasswick, Harry - Port Hardy BC (GLASSWICK-0451)

Gleichauf, Andrea - Victoria BC (GLEICHAUF-0290)

Glenn, Holly - Pemberton BC (GLENN-1098)

Glibbery, Shelagh - Dawson Creek BC (GLIBBERY-1169)

Glittenberg, Eva - Richmond BC (GLITTENBERG-1459)

Glittenberg, Hege - Vancouver BC (GLITTENBERG-1460)

Glover, Carolann - Roberts Creek BC (GLOVER-0450)

Godfrey, Nicholas - Vancouver BC (GODFREY-0340)

Godin, Bruce - Vancouver BC (GODIN-0665)

Godon, Andrew - Victoria BC (GODON-0623)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Goering, Dag Dr - Nanaimo BC (GOERING-0937)

Goldbar, Zandu - Vancouver BC (GOLDBAR-0691)

Goldberg, Hans - Vancouver BC (GOLDBERG-0238), (GOLDBERG-0415)

Goldsberry, Nancy Sunshine - Coombs BC (GOLDSBERRY-1320)

Golling, Sara - Rossland BC (GOLLING-1326)

Gordon, Katherine - Gabriola Island BC (GORDON-0234)

Gottlieb, Vera - Chase BC (GOTTLIEB-1204)

Gotto, Deirdre - Victoria BC (GOTTO-0448)

Gouge, Ted - Salt Spring Island BC (GOUGE-0084)

Goulet, Stephen - North Saanich BC (GOULET-0717)

Gracey, Mae and Robert - Parksville BC (GRACEY-1594)

Graham, Adrienne - Sechelt BC (GRAHAM-1408)

Graham, Beatriz - Qualicum Beach BC (GRAHAM-1312)

Graham, Carol - Campbell River BC (GRAHAM-0588)

Grant, Ann - Vancouver BC (GRANT-1151)

Grant, Brian D - Victoria BC (GRANT-0326)

Grass, Pat - Lions Bay BC (GRASS-0630)

Graves Alison - Nanaimo BC (GRAVES-0337)

Graves, Barbara - Lantzville BC (GRAVES-0339)

Grayston, Donald - Burnaby BC (GRAYSTON-1047)

Greaves, Cory - 100 Mile House BC (GREAVES-0713)

Green, Zena - Victoria BC (GREEN-0565)

Gregory, Suzanne - Nanaimo BC (GREGORY-0492)

Gregson, Ian - Vancouver BC (GREGSON-0064), (GREGSON-0182)

Griffiths, Erin - Vancouver BC (GRIFFITHS-0809)

Griggs, Arthur - Salmon Arm BC (GRIGGS-1215)

Grignon, Paul - Gabriola Island BC (GRIGNON-0153)

Grignon, Tsiporah - Gabriola Island BC (GRIGNON-1317)

Grindon, Stephanie - Gibsons BC (GRINDON-1641)

Grolle, Hendrik - Ottawa Ontario (GROLLE-0131)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Groves, Joanna - Victoria BC (GROVES-0697)

Grube, Anne - Kamloops BC (GRUBE-0841)

Grubel, Herbert Emeritus Professor - North Vancouver BC (GRUBEL-0791)

Gudmundson, Murray - Victoria BC (GUDMUNDSON-1207)

H

Haase, Rachel - Whitehorse YT (HAASE-1015)

Habgood, Richard - Victoria BC (HABGOOD-1298)

Hackney, Thomas - Victoria BC (HACKNEY-0617)

Hadland, Conrad - Abbotsford BC (HADLAND-1072)

Hadley, David - Salmon Arm BC (HADLEY-0969)

Hagedorn, Mary Jean and Wilfred - Lasqueti BC (HAGEDORN-1547)

Hagel, David - Salmon Arm BC (HAGEL-0968)

Haist, Yvonne - Victoria BC (HAIST-1235)

Hale, Dave - Kimberley BC (HALE-1546)

Hale, Ilona Dr - Kimberley BC (HALE-1550)

Hall, Brian - Rossland BC (HALL-1579)

Hall, John H - Gabriola Island BC (HALL-1423)

Hall, Ken - Charlie Lake BC (HALL-0641)

Hall, Peter - Vancouver BC (HALL-0002)

Hallsor, Bruce - Victoria BC (HALLSOR-0223)

Hamberg, Joanne - Abbotsford BC (HAMBERG-0577)

Hamill, Lalita - Langley BC (HAMILL-1166)

Hamilton, J Dwayne - Castlegar BC (HAMILTON-0067)

Hamilton, J Dwayne - Castlegar BC (HAMILTON-1631)

Hammill, Judith - Gibsons BC (HAMMILL-0718)

Hanna, T R - Gabriola Island BC (HANNA-0113)

Hannah, Margo - Dawson Creek BC (HANNAH-1595)

Hannant, Larry - Victoria BC (HANNANT-1035)

Hanni, Wilfred (Wilf) - Cranbrook BC (HANNI-0371)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Hansen, Cindy - Vernon BC (HANSEN-0944)

Hanson, Bill - Victoria BC (HANSON-0525)

Hardin, Herschel - West Vancouver BC (HARDIN-1417)

Hargrave, Madeline - Nanaimo BC (HARGRAVE-0715)

Harlander, Helga - Fort St John BC (HARLANDER-1494)

Harney, Kevin - Vancouver BC (HARNEY-1074)

Harper, Lynette - Fruitvale BC (HARPER-1009)

Harrington, Tyson - North Vancouver BC (HARRINGTON-0572)

Harris, Connie - Salmon Arm BC (HARRIS-0197)

Harris, Gordon - Campbell River BC (HARRIS-0090)

Harris, Peter - Nanaimo BC (HARRIS-0180), (HARRIS-1404)

Harrison, David - Terrace BC (HARRISON-0112)

Hart, David - Vernon BC (HART-0304)

Hart, Sandy - Tatla Lake BC (HART-1062)

Hart, Theo - Winnipeg Manitoba (HART-0189)

Hartman, Gordon F - Nanaimo BC (HARTMAN-0076)

Hartwell, Stephen - Toronto Ontario (HARTWELL-0044)

Hartwig, Carol - Duncan BC (HARTWIG-0621)

Harvey, Bruce - Vernon BC (HARVEY-0633)

Harvey, Lovena - Whaletown BC (HARVEY-0619)

Havelaar-Van Halst, Johanna and W Just Havelaar - Courtenay BC (HAVELAAR-VAN HALST-1499)

Hawkes, Suzanne - Vancouver BC (HAWKES-0986)

Hawkins, Guy - Powell River BC (HAWKINS-0411)

Hawkins, Ron - Salt Spring Island BC (HAWKINS-1536)

Hayes, Stephen - New Westminster BC (HAYES-0888)

Hearns, Glen - Vancouver BC (HEARNS-0683)

Hebbert, Robert - Vernon BC (HEBBERT-0611)

Hebert, Rene - Vancouver BC (HEBERT-0690)

Hecker, Margaret - Vancouver BC (HECKER-0358)

Heggie, Claud - Victoria BC (HEGGIE-1227)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Heidrick, Bill and Kathleen Woodley - Zeballos BC (HEIDRICK AND WOODLEY-0668)

Hein, Wilf - Abbotsford BC (HEIN-0168)

Hepburn, John - Slocan Park BC (HEPBURN-1451)

Hepher, Peter - Creston BC (HEPHER-0867)

Herbert, Frederick H QC - Halfmoon Bay BC (HERBERT-0133)

Herbert, Spencer - Vancouver BC (HERBERT-1181)

Herring, Walter - Vancouver BC (HERRING-0162), (HERRING-0978)

Heslop, Daniel - Kamloops BC (HESLOP-0151), (HESLOP-1020)

Heyman, George President of the BC Government and Service Employees' Union - Burnaby BC (HEYMAN-0847)

Hickok, Andrew - Burnaby BC (HICKOK-1149)

Higginbotham, John - Courtenay BC (HIGGINBOTHAM-1245)

Higgs, Greg - Bella Coola BC (HIGGS-0737)

Higgs, Joan - Roberts Creek BC (HIGGS-1134)

Higgs, Ken - West Vancouver BC (HIGGS-0543)

Hite, Morgan - Smithers BC (HITE-0549)

Hocking, Jeffrey - Victoria BC (HOCKING-0547)

Hodge, Lloyd - Cranbrook BC (HODGE-1487)

Hodges, Marianne - Balfour BC (HODGES-0303)

Hodson, Alix - Gabriola Island BC (HODSON-1596)

Hoechstetter, Linda - Roberts Creek BC (HOECHSTETTER-0348)

Holgersen, Sverre - Kelowna BC (HOLGERSEN-0878)

Hollemans, John - Victoria BC (HOLLEMANS-1168)

Holmes-Smith, David - Sechelt BC (HOLMES-SMITH-0376)

Holt, Carrie - Vancouver BC (HOLT-1131)

Holt, Richard - Vancouver BC (HOLT-0527)

Hoover, Donald - Kamloops BC (HOOVER-0192)

Hoover, Florence - Kamloops BC (HOOVER-0193)

Hoover, Lauralee - Kamloops BC (HOOVER-0185)

Hopewell, Rainey - Victoria BC (HOPEWELL-1313)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Hopkins, Edwin M. - Delta BC (HOPKINS-0528)

Hopps, Hillary - Victoria BC (HOPPS-0491)

Horner, Darryl - Victoria BC (HORNER-0092)

Hourigan, Gail - Kelowna BC (HOURIGAN-0723)

Hourston, Barbara - Nanaimo BC (HOURSTON-0324)

Hourston, Ian - Prince Rupert BC (HOURSTON-1196)

Howard, Roy - Dunster BC (HOWARD-0225)

Howe, David - Victoria BC (HOWE-0454)

Hubbard, Kyla - Victoria BC (HUBBARD-0601)

Hughes, Ashley - South Surrey BC (HUGHES-0772)

Hughes, Dagmar - Campbell River BC (HUGHES-0592)

Hunt, Caron - Okanagan Falls BC (HUNT-0722)

Hunter, David - North Vancouver BC (HUNTER-1315)

Hunter, Nancy - North Vancouver BC (HUNTER-1598)

Hunter, Paul - Kaslo BC (HUNTER-1228)

Hunter, Robert - Vancouver BC (HUNTER-1539)

Huntley, D J and M Zuckermann - Burnaby BC (HUNTLEY AND ZUCKERMANN-1370)

Hurst, Yendor - Whaletown BC (HURST-0388)

Hurwood, Eric W - Brentwood Bay BC (HURWOOD-0499)

Huster, Andreas - West Vancouver BC (HUSTER-0775)

Huston, Shelagh - Gabriola Island BC (HUSTON-0149)

Hutchins, J K - Sooke BC (HUTCHINS-1491)

Hyde, Natacha G - Victoria BC (HYDE-0829)

I

Idler, Helen - Christina Lake BC (IDLER-0387)

Ince, Shirley - Vancouver BC (INCE-1159)

Irvine, Linda - Nanaimo BC (IRVINE-1294)

Irving, Bill - Ucluelet BC (IRVING-0134)

Israel, Judi - Vancouver BC (ISRAEL-1132)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Israel, Kent - Rossland BC (ISRAEL-0083)

Ivanisko,. Edward - Campbell River BC (IVANISKO-0416)

J

Jaarsma, Jim - Victoria BC (JAARSMA-1032)

Jackson, Bruce - Winlaw BC (JACKSON-0309)

Jackson, Sherrill - Vancouver BC (JACKSON-1073)

Jacobsen, Bernice - Vancouver BC (JACOBSEN-1530)

James, Alison - Victoria BC (JAMES-1359)

Janke, Elli - Vernon BC (JANKE-0950)

Jeffery; Derek Hollis - Port Coquitlam BC (JEFFERY-0826)

Jeffrey, Nikolas - Surrey BC (JEFFREY-0541)

Jensen, Karl Eigil Dr - Abbotsford BC (JENSEN-0686)

Jensen, Leif - Prince George BC (JENSEN-0292)

Jenson, Earl A - Vancouver BC (JENSON-0800)

Jewell, Jeff - North Vancouver BC (JEWELL-1643)

Jewell, Jeff and Diana - North Vancouver BC (JEWELL-1373)

Jewell, Jeff and Diana - North Vancouver BC (JEWELL-1634)

Joblin, Christopher - White Rock BC (JOBLIN-0399)

Johannson, Roff - West Vancouver BC (JOHANNSON-0620)

John, Edward Grand Chief - (JOHN-0001), (JOHN-0005)

Johnson, Audrey Executive Director West Coast Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) - Vancouver BC (JOHNSON-1102)

Johnson, Carl - Esquimalt BC (JOHNSON-1143)

Johnson, Derek - Powell River BC (JOHNSON-0266)

Johnson, Eileen - Victoria BC (JOHNSON-1205)

Johnson, Kelly - Kelowna BC (JOHNSON-0099)

Johnson, Lise - Victoria BC (JOHNSON-1234)

Johnson, Olive - Vancouver BC (JOHNSON-1566)

Johnston, Katherine - Halfmoon Bay BC (JOHNSTON-0670)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Johnston, S H (Joe) and Marlene - Kaslo BC (JOHNSTON-0346)

Jolly, Diane - North Vancouver BC (JOLLY-1112)

Jones, Aron - Nelson BC (JONES-0305)

Jones, David - Castlegar BC (JONES-0181)

Jones, David - Surrey BC (JONES-0111)

Jones, Ian Arthur - Vancouver BC (JONES-0856)

Jones, Kevin - Agassiz BC (JONES-1010)

Jones, T - Detroit Michigan USA (JONES-0107)

Jordan, Bruce - Galiano Island BC (JORDAN-1599)

Jorg, Gloria - Whaletown BC (JORG-0389)

Joseph, Chris - Squamish BC (JOSEPH-1127)

Joyce, Arthur R - New Denver BC (JOYCE-0828)

Julian, Barbara - Victoria BC (JULIAN-1087)

Jupe, Brian - Nanaimo BC (JUPE-1355)

Jupe, Donna - Nanaimo BC (JUPE-1341)

Jupe, Kenneth - Nanaimo BC (JUPE-1296)

Justo, Peter - Victoria BC (JUSTO-1263)

K

Kabush, Elmer - Moberly Lake BC (KABUSH-0108), (KABUSH-0868)

Kadulski, Richard - North Vancouver BC (KADULSKI-1241)

Kaller, Elizabeth and Brian Lupton - Victoria BC (KALLER AND LUPTON-1508)

Kaptein, Krista - Courtenay BC (KAPTEIN-0545)

Karagianis, Maurine - Victoria BC (KARAGIANIS-1253)

Karagianis, Steve - Gibsons BC (KARAGIANIS-0857)

Karjaluoto, Mark - Prince George BC (KARJALUOTO-0861)

Kask, Glen - Mission BC (KASK-1577)

Kaufmann, Louis A - Surrey BC (KAUFMANN-1013)

Kavanagh, Patricia - Burnaby BC (KAVANAGH-1187)

Kay, David - Vancouver BC (KAY-1105)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Kearvell, Peter - Pender Island BC (KEARVELL-1580)

Keetch, Tammy - Vancouver BC (KEETCH-1600)

Kell, Sarah - Victoria BC (KELL-0778)

Kelly, Barbara S - Comox BC (KELLY-0497)

Kelly, David - Victoria BC (KELLY-0564)

Kendrick, Bryce Professor - Sidney BC (KENDRICK-0405)

Kennedy, John - Burnaby BC (KENNEDY-0740), (KENNEDY-0751), (KENNEDY-0767), (KENNEDY-1362), (KENNEDY-1644)

Kennedy-MacNeill, Heather - Courtney BC (KENNEDY-MACNEILL-0327)

Kerr, Peter - Kelowna BC (KERR-0739)

Kerr, Randy - Victoria BC (KERR-1083)

Kerr, Robert - Victoria BC (KERR-1601)

Kerr-Halls, Jessie - Comox BC (KERR-HALLS-1208)

Kerslake, Jonathan - Lillooet BC (KERSLAKE-1080)

Kettlewell, Damian - Vancouver BC (KETTLEWELL-1034)

Kidd, Michael - Richmond BC (KIDD-1602)

Kiene, Joe - Sechelt BC (KIENE-0537)

Kinakin, Mickey - Castlegar BC (KINAKIN-1064)

Kindrid, Karen - Vancouver BC (KINDRID-1133)

King, Hubert W Professor Emeritus - Salt Spring Island BC (KING-0825)

King, Jessie - Victoria BC (KING-0557)

King, L - Saanichton BC (KING-1503)

Kinghorn, Russ - Cranbrook BC (KINGHORN-1272)

Kipp, Sarah - Salmon Arm BC (KIPP-1141)

Kirk, Annette - Victoria BC (KIRK-0651), (KIRK-0959)

Kirkby, Wendy - Victoria BC (KIRKBY-1095)

Kirkpatrick, Victor and Marion - Campbell River BC (KIRKPATRICK-1470)

Kleinman, Danny - Los Angeles California USA (KLEINMAN-0025)

Knaus, Jakob - Sechelt BC (KNAUS-0075)

Kneen, Brewster - Sorrento BC (KNEEN-1369)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Kneen, Cathleen - Sorrento BC (KNEEN-0894)
Kneifel, Dorle Dr - Vancouver BC (KNEIFEL-1516)
Knight, J - Smithers BC (KNIGHT-1514)
Knopp, Walter - Grand Forks BC (KNOPP-1333)
Knott, Freda - Victoria BC (KNOTT-1154)
Knowles, Ronald - Pitt Meadows BC (KNOWLES-0256)
Kocib, Sidney - New Westminster BC (KOCIB-1356)
Koenig, Rob (George Robert) - Kelowna BC (KOENIG-0743)
Koenig, Waverlea - Kelowna BC (KOENIG-0744)
Kohne, Horst - Sooke BC (KOHNE-1391)
Korican, Sylvia - Sidney BC (KORICAN-1405)
Kotaska, Andrew - Comox BC (KOTASKA-1425)
Koutsodimos, Rita - Vancouver BC (KOUTSODIMOS-1368)
Kowalski, Brian - Victoria BC (KOWALSKI-1174)
Krayenhoff, W Bruce - Courtenay BC (KRAYENHOFF-1371)
Krbavac, Elma - Burnaby BC (KRBAVAC-1603)
Kremer, Joseph - Vancouver BC (KREMER-0148), (KREMER-0798)
Kruta, Alice E - New Hazelton BC (KRUTA-0870)
Kryskow, Pam - Vancouver BC (KRYSKOW-0637), (KRYSKOW-1007)
Kump, Alex - Kelowna BC (KUMP-0650)

L

Lacey, Donald - Winlaw BC (LACEY-0431)
Lacey, Joy - Nanaimo BC (LACEY-0511)
Lacharite, Richard - Victoria BC (LACHARITE-1206)
Lai, Anne - Courtenay BC (LAI-1030)
Laing, Ken - Vancouver BC (LAING-0869)
Lake, Peter Dr. - Queen Charlotte City BC (LAKE-0082)
Lake, Quentin - Victoria BC (LAKE-1465)
Lamare, Sally and Barry - New Denver BC (LAMARE-0852)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Lamb, S R and M F Lampson –Lasqueti Island BC (LAMB AND LAMPSON-1531)

Lamond, Jean - Vancouver BC (LAMOND-1489)

Lancaster, Glen - North Vancouver BC (LANCASTER-0640)

Land, Albert - Comox BC (LAND-0198)

Lands, Ed - Roberts Creek BC (LANDS-0955)

Lane, Robert Professor - Nanaimo BC (LANE-0086)

Lane, William - Victoria BC (LANE-1299)

Lang, Frank and Lucille - Kamloops BC (LANG-0871)

Lanigan, Troy Director Communications Canadian Taxpayers Federation - Victoria BC (LANIGAN-0397)

Larcombe, Dennis - Kaslo BC (LARCOMBE-0336)

Larsen, Karen - Vancouver BC (LARSEN-1604)

Larstone, Michelle - Victoria BC (LARSTONE-0936)

Laskarin, Daniel - Victoria BC (LASKARIN-1117)

Lastman, Howard - Toronto Ontario (LASTMAN-1302), (LASTMAN-1318), (LASTMAN-1605), (LASTMAN-1606), (LASTMAN-1607), (LASTMAN-1645), (LASTMAN-1646), (LASTMAN-1660), (LASTMAN-1661), (LASTMAN-1662)

Latham, Mark - Vancouver BC (LATHAM-0579)

Lau, David - Victoria BC (LAU-0047)

Lauman, S Peter - Vernon BC (LAUMAN-0832)

Launay, Donna - Victoria BC (LAUNAY-0666)

Lavoie, Andre - Aldergrove BC (LAVOIE-0344)

Lavoie, Denis - Nelson BC (LAVOIE-0370)

Law, Tony - Hornby Island BC (LAW-0949)

Lax, Noel - Quathiaski Cove BC (LAX-1542)

Le Baron, Paul - Denman Island BC (LE BARON-0351)

Le Noury, R C - North Saanich BC (LE NOURY-0500)

Leach, Douglas M - Tlell BC (LEACH-0689)

Leavitt, Steve - Victoria BC (LEAVITT-0373)

LeBaron, Reina - Hornby Island BC (LEBARON-0325)

LeBaron, Sasha - Gabriola Island BC (LEBARON-0369)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

LeBlond, Paul - Galiano Island BC (LEBLOND-0692)

LeCavalier, Jacques - Kelowna BC (LECAVALIER-0390), (LECAVALIER-0997)

Lee-Ran, Nathaniel - Kelowna BC (LEE-RAN-0544)

Leggett, Adam - Nanaimo BC (LEGGETT-0662)

Lehmann, Frank - Burns Lake BC (LEHMANN-1568)

Leiserson, Hector - Victoria BC (LEISERSON-1185)

Leiserson, Sara - Victoria BC (LEISERSON-1188)

Leja, Karin and Tom - Winlaw BC (LEJA-1454)

Leroux, Ed - Chilliwack BC (LEROUX-0041)

LeRoy, Ian - Victoria BC (LEROY-0127)

Leslie, Forbes - Kelowna BC (LESLIE-0284)

Leslie, Gordon - Sechelt BC (LESLIE-0576)

Letourneau, Jean - Vancouver BC (LETOURNEAU-0594)

Letts, Ray - Brentwood Bay BC (LETTS-1006)

Leung, Zoe - Vancouver BC (LEUNG-1608)

Lewis, Dan - Tofino BC (LEWIS-0935)

Lewis, Fiona - North Vancouver BC (LEWIS-1111)

Lewis, Kathleen I - Victoria BC (LEWIS-1380)

Lewis, Will - Prince George BC (LEWIS-0159)

Liddle, Ron - Christina Lake BC (LIDDLE-0367), (LIDDLE-0422)

Light, Eric - Victoria BC (LIGHT-1328)

Lightowlers, Christy - Victoria BC (LIGHTOWLERS-1267)

Lightwater, Judy - Victoria BC (LIGHTWATER-0423), (LIGHTWATER-1001)

Lindewall, Karin - Victoria BC (LINDEWALL-0967)

Lindsay, Lizz - North Vancouver BC (LINDSAY-1156)

Link, Michael - Burnaby BC (LINK-1142)

Litzcke, Karin - Vancouver BC (LITZCKE-0854)

Living, John - Galiano Island BC (LIVING-0096)

Livingstone, Dawn - Vancouver BC (LIVINGSTONE-0173)

Lizee, Vincent - Coquitlam BC (LIZEE-1569)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Llewellyn, Stephanie - Vancouver BC (LLEWELLYN-0776)
Lloyd, Chris - Victoria BC (LLOYD-1041)
Lloyd, Stephen - Vancouver BC (LLOYD-0078)
Lloyd, Susanne - Vancouver BC (LLOYD-0275)
Loehndorf, Daniel Reverend - Winlaw BC (LOEHNDORF-0755)
Loenen, Nick - Richmond BC (LOENEN-0035), (LOENEN-0875)
Lorenz, Norm - Dunster BC (LORENZ-0486)
Loro, Antonio - Victoria BC (LORO-0818)
Loveless, Evan - Victoria BC (LOVELESS-1197)
Lucas, Philippe - Victoria BC (LUCAS-1003)
Lucy, Ryan - Vancouver BC (LUCY-1570)
Luis, Armando - Richmond Hill Ontario (LUIS-0085)
Lund, P A - West Vancouver BC (LUND-0163)
Lund, Sharon - Vancouver BC (LUND-0998)
Lung, Richard - Scarborough England (LUNG-0073)
Lustig, Leila Dr - Victoria BC (LUSTIG-1277)
Lyman, Eva - Celista BC (LYMAN-0674), (LYMAN-0823)
Lymworth, Sean - Vancouver BC (LYMWORTH-0139)
Lyons, Heather - Sidney BC (LYONS-1300)

M

Maas, Katherine J - North Vancouver BC (MAAS-0264), (MAAS-0322)
Macanulty, Iain - Burnaby BC (MACANULTY-0709)
Macanulty, Iain - Burnaby BC (MACANULTY-1609)
MacDermot, Jane - Vancouver BC (MACDERMOT-1163)
MacDonald, Alexander - Smithers BC (MACDONALD-1526)
Macdonald, Anne - Nelson BC (MACDONALD-0295)
MacDonald, Gracie - North Saanich BC (MACDONALD-1582)
Macdonald, Joyce - Nelson BC (MACDONALD-0443)
Macdonald, June - Toronto Ontario (MACDONALD-1647)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Macek, Peter - Slocan Park BC (MACEK-0318)

MacFarlane, Devon - Vancouver BC (MACFARLANE-0991)

Machny, Simone - Barriere BC (MACHNY-1456)

Macintyre, Jean - North Vancouver BC (MACINTYRE-1100)

MacKay, Lee - Nelson BC (MACKAY-0158)

Mackay, Murdoch - Delta BC (MACKAY-0248)

MacKenzie, C J G - Vancouver BC (MACKENZIE-1474)

Mackenzie, Glenn - North Vancouver BC (MACKENZIE-0418)

Mackintosh, Linda - Coquitlam BC (MACKINTOSH-0698), (MACKINTOSH-1021)

MacLean, Jodi - Chilliwack BC (MACLEAN-1238)

MacLean, Shirley - Grand Forks BC (MACLEAN-1658)

MacLean, Wendy - Grand Forks BC (MACLEAN-1655)

MacLeod, Malcolm - Vancouver BC (MACLEOD-0018)

MacLeod, Rob - Sirdar BC (MACLEOD-1528)

MacNab, Josha - Vancouver BC (MACNAB-0899)

MacVittie, Susan - Courtenay BC (MACVITTIE-1108)

Mainland, Joyce - Kelowna BC (MAINLAND-0848)

Mallet, Patrick - Kaslo BC (MALLET-0814)

Mancinelli, Steve - Coquitlam BC (MANCINELLI-0384), (MANCINELLI-0449)

Mann, L. Darcy - Victoria BC (MANN-1280)

Mann, Stephen - Burns Lake BC (MANN-0574)

Markvoort, Bill - New Westminster BC (MARKVOORT-1171)

Marley, David O - West Vancouver BC (MARLEY-0872)

Marple, John - Malahat BC (MARPLE-0114), (MARPLE-0137)

Marsh, Roderick - Bowen Island BC (MARSH-0675)

Marshall, K Eric - Cowichan Bay BC (MARSHALL-1060)

Martens, Garth - Kelowna BC (MARTENS-0582)

Martin, Murray - Burnaby BC (MARTIN-0146), (MARTIN-1192)

Martin, Peter - Victoria BC (MARTIN-0762)

Martineau, Stephan - Winlaw BC (MARTINEAU-0948)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Maser, Michael - Gibsons BC (MASER-0548), (MASER-1574)

Mason, Brian - Victoria BC (MASON-1330)

Mason, Rob - Victoria BC (MASON-0377), (MASON-1262)

Masterton, Chris - Vancouver BC (MASTERTON-0789)

Masuda, Manabu Gerald (Gerry) - Duncan BC (MASUDA-0874), (MASUDA-1410)

Matheson, Scott - Chilliwack BC (MATHESON-1103)

Maung, Raymond Dr - Kamloops BC (MAUNG-0013)

Mauser, Gary - Coquitlam BC (MAUSER-0359)

Maximenko, John - Christina Lake BC (MAXIMENKO-1066)

Maxwell, Harvey - Surrey BC (MAXWELL-0231)

May, Jon Dr - Sheffield South Yorkshire England UK (MAY-0241)

McCarthy, Stephen - Nanaimo BC (MCCARTHY-1610)

McConnell, Janet - Roberts Creek BC (MCCONNELL-1399)

McCrory, Colleen Chair BC Greens Party - Gibsons BC (MCCRORY-1231)

McCrossan, Dennis - Vancouver BC (MCCROSSAN-1172)

McCullough, Margaret B - Powell River BC (MCCULLOUGH-1488)

McDonnell, Leslie - Nanaimo BC (MCDONNELL-0011)

McDowall, Stephanie - Nanaimo BC (MCDOWALL-1301)

McDowell, J - Tofino BC (MCDOWELL-1611)

McGauley, Pegasis - Nelson BC (MCGAULEY-1439)

McGillivray, Brett - Roberts Creek BC (MCGILLIVRAY-1426)

McGreal, Ralph - Winlaw BC (MCGREAL-1220)

McInnes, Betty - Victoria BC (MCINNES-0382)

McIntyre, Valerie - Langley BC (MCINTYRE-0704)

McKay, John - Nanaimo BC (MCKAY-0218)

McKee, David - North Vancouver BC (MCKEE-0812)

McKinnon, Ian - Victoria BC (MCKINNON-1323)

McLennan, Don - Nanaimo BC (MCLENNAN-0203), (MCLENNAN-0383), (MCLENNAN-0430), (MCLENNAN-0833)

McLeod, Douglas J - Terrace BC (MCLEOD-1412)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

McLeod, John - Nanaimo BC (MCLEOD-0523)

McLeod, William Grant - Richmond BC (MCLEOD-0508)

McNally, Diane - Victoria BC (MCNALLY-1398)

McNeill, Britta - Winfield BC (MCNEILL-1543)

McPherson, Sandra - Victoria BC (MCPHERSON-0510)

Mead, Johanna - Fauquier BC (MEAD-1485)

Meaning, Shirley - Victoria BC (MEANING-0362)

Meijer, Theo - Sidney BC (MEIJER-1118)

Meikle, Dorell - Powell River BC (MEIKLE-0332)

Meilleur, Roberta - Courtenay BC (MEILLEUR-0427)

Melrose, Simon - Musquodoboit Harbour Nova Scotia (MELROSE-1630)

Merkley, Ken - Victoria BC (MERKLEY-0972)

Merrick, Andy - Comox BC (MERRICK-1472)

Merryfeather, Lyn - Victoria BC (MERRYFEATHER-1104)

Metcalfe, Jen - Vancouver BC (METCALFE-0835)

Meyer zu Erpen, Walter - Victoria BC (MEYER ZU ERPEN-1388)

Mhairi, Todd - Vernon BC (MHAIRI-0147)

Middleditch, Helen - Nelson BC (MIDDLEDITCH-1259)

Middlemass, John - 100 Mile House BC (MIDDLEMASS-1495), (MIDDLEMASS-1540)

Mildner, Peter - Grand Forks BC (MILDNER-1218)

Miller, Andy - Vancouver BC (MILLER-0943)

Miller, Jack - Port Clements BC (MILLER-0258)

Miller, Richard - Victoria BC (MILLER -1028)

Mills, Gary - Terrace BC (MILLS-0394)

Milne, Onni - Vancouver BC (MILNE-1469)

Milner, Henry Dr - Montreal QC (MILNER-1612)

Milstead, Julia - Aldergrove BC (MILSTEAD-1445)

Mindenhall, Dorothy - Victoria BC (MINDENHALL-1058)

Mingo, Laurent - Vancouver BC (MINGO-1129)

Mitchell, Barbara - Saanichton BC (MITCHELL-1157)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Mitchell, Edward - Burnaby BC (MITCHELL-1613)

Mitchell, Frank - Metchosin BC (MITCHELL-0409), (MITCHELL-0957)

Mitchell, Grant - Quesnel BC (MITCHELL-0816)

Mitchell, Judith - Nelson BC (MITCHELL-0333)

Mitchell, Violaine - Victoria BC (MITCHELL-0990)

Modrall, Joan - Penticton BC (MODRALL-0616)

Moen, Keith - Victoria BC (MOEN-0830)

Moffat, H A - Prince George BC (MOFFAT-0097)

Moody, Peter - Kimberley BC (MOODY-0774)

Moore, Anne - Shawnigan Lake BC (MOORE-0687)

Moore, Barry - Edgewater BC (MOORE-0712)

Moore, Gary - Sooke BC (MOORE-1402)

Moore, Laura - Victoria BC (MOORE-1230)

Moore, Walt - Kelowna BC (MOORE-1365)

Morey, William (Bill) - Oliver BC (MOREY-0471)

Morgan, Paul - Vancouver BC (MORGAN-0125), (MORGAN-1565)

Morley, Peter - Carshalton Beeches Surrey Enland (MORLEY-1140)

Morninglight, Pamela - Surrey BC (MORNINGLIGHT-0747)

Morris, Michele - Procter BC (MORRIS-1161)

Morris, Ray Dr - Salmon Arm BC (MORRIS-0989)

Morrison, Doug - Garibaldi Highlands BC (MORRISON-0834), (MORRISON-0838), (MORRISON-1638)

Morrison., Barrie M - Pender Island BC (MORRISON.-0507)

Morse, R J and P - White Rock BC (MORSE-1519)

Morton, Marjorie - Vancouver BC (MORTON-1150)

Moses, Art - Vancouver BC (MOSES-1146)

Moses, Don Party Leader All Nations Party of BC - Merritt BC (MOSES-1648)

Moss, Jack - Lantzville BC (MOSS-0522)

Mott, Chris - Vancouver BC (MOTT-1199)

Moulds, J E - Kamloops BC (MOULDS-1554)

Mudry, David - Errington BC (MUDRY-1002)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Mueller, Toby - Lillooet BC (MUELLER-1285)

Mulder ten Kate, Quirien - Coquitlam BC (MULDER TEN KATE-0156)

Mundy, Sarah - Victoria BC (MUNDY-1395)

Munroe, Pamela - Courtenay BC (MUNROE-0206)

Muntener, Roman - Prince George BC (MUNTENER-0647)

Murphy, Terry - Richmond BC (MURPHY-0224)

Murray, Lisa - Victoria BC (MURRAY-0247)

Murray, Michael - Slat Spring Island BC (MURRAY-0478)

N

Nash, Kathreen A - Victoria BC (NASH-1513)

Nash, Kim - Vernon BC (NASH-1558)

Nathwani, Shiraz - Burnaby BC (NATHWANI-0987)

Nation, Bob - Duncan BC (NATION-0578)

Naylor, Suzy - Roberts Creek BC (NAYLOR-0760)

Neale, Tina - Vancouver BC (NEALE-0646)

Neish, Kevin - Victoria BC (NEISH-0625)

Nelitz, Marc - Vancouver BC (NELITZ-1135)

Nelson, E - Coldstream BC (NELSON-1561)

Nelson, Ian - Kamloops BC (NELSON-0186)

Nenn, Krista - Winlaw BC (NENN-0308)

Nesbitt, Arlene - Victoria BC (NESBITT-1213)

Nesling, John - Nanaimo BC (NESLING-0365)

Neufeld, Kathaleen - Clearwater BC (NEUFELD-0106), (NEUFELD-0988)

Neufeld, Ronald - Clearwater BC (NEUFELD-0653)

Newcomb, John - Victoria BC (NEWCOMB-0597)

Newell, John - Halfmoon Bay BC (NEWELL-0347)

Newland Hale, Marie - Cumberland BC (NEWLAND HALE-0954)

Newman, Virginia - Salt Spring Island BC (NEWMAN-1486)

Newson, Lorne - Victoria BC (NEWSON-0036)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Nicholson, Bill - Fraser Lake BC (NICHOLSON-0372)

Nicoll, Matthew - Courtenay BC (NICOLL-0496)

Nisbet, Michael W - New Westminster BC (NISBET-1221)

Nixon, Frank H - Winlaw BC (NIXON-1505)

Nobbs, Freda - Victoria BC (NOBBS-1322)

Nordstrom, Dave - Salmon Arm BC (NORDSTROM-0488)

Norel, Hans - Kelowna BC (NOREL-0021)

North-O'Connell, Jessica - Lake Cowichan BC (NORTH-OCONNELL-1275)

Nurse, Stuart - Vancouver BC (NURSE-0685)

Nuse, Betsy - Victoria BC (NUSE-1176)

Nutland, Michael - Cumberland BC (NUTLAND-1107)

Nuttall, Adriana - Vancouver BC (NUTTALL-0187), (NUTTALL-0679)

O

O'Brien, John A - Lafayette Hill Pennsylvania USA (OBRIEN-0216)

Obuyes Jr, Antonio - Vancouver BC (OBUYES-0736)

Ockley, Rowen - North Vancouver BC (OCKLEY-1490)

Odell,.Liam - Victoria BC (ODELL-1310)

O'Donoghue, Eamon - Telkwa BC (ODONOGHUE-0788)

Oghma, Lisa - Victoria BC (OGHMA-1348)

O'Keefe, Kate - Kaslo BC (OKEEFE-0057), (OKEEFE-1418)

Olsen, Leslie and Peter Seabourne - Vancouver BC (OLSEN AND SEABOURNE-0489)

Olson, Lornna - Victoria BC (OLSON-1145)

Olynek, Brian - Golden BC (OLYNEK-0556)

O'Neil, Greg Dr - Vernon BC (ONEIL-0350)

O'Neill, Daniel - Courtenay BC (ONEILL-0892)

O'Neill, Richard - Roberts Creek BC (ONEILL-0941)

O'Reilly, Kim - Winfield BC (OREILLY-0251)

Ormond, Inessa - Galiano Island BC (ORMOND-0477)

Orr, Sean - Vancouver BC (ORR-0462)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

O'Scalleigh, Maggie - Salt Spring Island BC (OSCALLEIGH-1115)
Ouellette, William - Courtenay BC (OUELLETTE-0408)

P

Page, Devon - Vancouver BC (PAGE-1411)
Page, Sheila - Sechelt BC (PAGE-0432)
Palmer, John S - Fruitvale BC (PALMER-1432)
Palmer, Susan - Nanaimo BC (PALMER-0261)
Palomino, Patricia - Vancouver BC (PALOMINO-1303)
Panitz, Aliza R. - Peachland BC (PANITZ-0796)
Pannekoek, Hanny - Victoria BC (PANNEKOEK-0667), (PANNEKOEK-1381)
Paolozzi, John - Vancouver BC (PAOLOZZI-1085)
Papiernik, Richard - Delta BC (PAPIERNIK-0493)
Parfitt, Ben - Victoria BC (PARFITT-1278)
Parker, Margaret - Kaslo BC (PARKER-1506)
Parker-Jervis, Noel - Victoria BC (PARKER-JERVIS-1484)
Parkhouse, Shelley - St. John's Newfoundland (PARKHOUSE-1124)
Parkinson, Glenn - Powell River BC (PARKINSON-1614)
Parkinson, Melanie - Vancouver BC (PARKINSON-1229)
Parrish, Brenda - Victoria BC (PARRISH-1093)
Parson, Richard - Delta BC (PARSON-1361)
Patten, Kristin - Smithers BC (PATTEN-0512)
Pattinson, Janet - Sorrento BC (PATTINSON-1046)
Pattison, Lee-Anne - Granthams Landing BC (PATTISON-1144)
Pavan, Carlo - Nanaimo BC (PAVAN-1096)
Pavan, Marcello Dr - Vancouver BC (PAVAN-1082)
Pawley, Robert J - Penticton BC (PAWLEY-0884)
Pawson, Cleo - Vancouver BC (PAWSON-1497)
Payne, Joan - Sechelt BC (PAYNE-1498)
Payne, Laurie - Chase BC (PAYNE-1070)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Pearce, Bernadette - Parksville BC (PEARCE-1340), (PEARCE-1342)

Pearson, Margaret - Sechelt BC (PEARSON-0440)

Pedersen, Laurence - Comox BC (PEDERSEN-0469)

Pedersen, Leo - Oliver BC (PEDERSEN-1396)

Pehota, David - Grand Forks BC (PEHOTA-0487)

Pelletier, Gerry - Richmond BC (PELLETIER-0618)

Pellow, Robert - Parksville BC (PELLOW-0615)

Pelter, J A - Victoria BC (PELTER-1441)

Pembroke, Betty - Roberts Creek BC (PEMBROKE-1532)

Penner, Oliver - Kelowna BC (PENNER-0583)

Pennock, Clifford Dr - Pender Island BC (PENNOCK-1464)

Pennock, Edna F - Sidney BC (PENNOCK-1476)

Percival, Colin – Oxford England UK (PERCIVAL-0138)

Percival, Joe - Victoria BC (PERCIVAL-0580)

Pereira, Alfred - New Westminster BC (PEREIRA-0196)

Perkins, Stanley A Dr - Victoria BC (PERKINS-1448)

Perry, Diane - Victoria BC (PERRY-1615)

Persson, Raymond G - Burnaby BC (PERSSON-0938)

Peters, Bill - Courtenay BC (PETERS-0169)

Petrakos, Gina - Rossland BC (PETRAKOS-1071)

Pettitt, Victoria - Castlegar BC (PETTITT-1453)

Pfeifer, Sheila - Lillooet BC (PFEIFER-0566)

Pfohl, Jody - Victoria BC (PFOHL-1616)

Phelan, Deborah - South Slocan BC (PHELAN-0328)

Phillips, Chris - Quathiaski Cove BC (PHILLIPS-0413)

Phillips, Evelyn M - Quathiaski Cove BC (PHILLIPS-1541)

Phillips, Jo - Sooke BC (PHILLIPS-0270), (PHILLIPS-1352)

Phillips, Stephen Chair Department of Political Science Langara College - Vancouver BC (PHILLIPS-1389)

Phillips, Teresa - Quathiaski Cove BC (PHILLIPS-0452)

Piantes, Chris - Vernal Utah USA (PIANTES-0843)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Piernitzki, Stephan - Nelson BC (PIERNITZKI-0459)

Pillatt, Penelope - Nelson BC (PILLATT-0342)

Pine, Jim - Victoria BC (PINE-1184)

Piney, David - Victoria BC (PINEY-0859)

Piver, Andre Dr - Nelson BC (PIVER-0403)

Plommer, Christy - Kamloops BC (PLOMMER-0757)

Plommer, Sybil - Kamloops BC (PLOMMER-0860)

Plomp, Fern - Vernon BC (PLOMP-0152)

Popplewell, Margot - Abbotsford BC (POPPLEWELL-1657)

Porter, Glen L - Burnaby BC (PORTER-1636)

Portz, Ben - Rossland BC (PORTZ-0509)

Potter, David - Toronto Ontario (POTTER-0098), (POTTER-0845)

Powell, Jim - Victoria BC (POWELL-1617)

Powell, John - Surrey BC (POWELL-1360)

Powell, Mark - South Surrey BC (POWELL-0756)

Pratt, Martin - Victoria BC (PRATT-0801)

Pratt, Sheila - Maple Ridge BC (PRATT-0283)

Prendergast, Ann - Surrey BC (PRENDERGAST-0561)

Prescod, Paul - Vancouver BC (PRESCOD-0769)

Price, Angela - Rossland BC (PRICE-1254)

Price, Roy - Kelowna BC (PRICE-0777)

Priest, Alicia - Victoria BC (PRIEST-1282)

Pringle, George - Vancouver BC (PRINGLE-1663)

Proctor, James - Delta BC (PROCTOR-0483)

Pryke, David - Qualicum Beach BC (PRYKE-1178)

Pryke, Shelagh - Qualicum Beach BC (PRYKE-1179)

Pryor, Simon - Vancouver BC (PRYOR-0069)

Pulsford, Robert - Black Creek BC (PULSFORD-1455)

Pylypa, Roger - Victoria BC (PYLYPA-0015)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Q

Quick, Tim - Victoria BC (QUICK-1110)

Quigley, Thomas - Vancouver BC (QUIGLEY-0445)

Quill, Hanne - Victoria BC (QUILL-1236)

Quinlan, Judith - Burns Lake BC (QUINLAN-1480)

R

Rabinovitch, Jannit - Victoria BC (RABINOVITCH-1011)

Rafidi, Anita - Duncan BC (RAFIDI-0164)

Rainwalker, Ellen - Courtenay BC (RAINWALKER-1180)

Ralfs, Arthur - Victoria BC (RALFS-0501)

Ralston, Michael - Victoria BC (RALSTON-0590)

Rana, Shan - Surrey BC (RANA-0058)

Rasi, Allan - Metchosin BC (RASI-0770)

Rastall, Peter Dr - Vancouver BC (RASTALL-0072), (RASTALL-0905)

Raynolds, Maria - Maple Ridge BC (RAYNOLDS-0321)

Raziel, Ruth - Vancouver BC (RAZIEL-0435)

Read, Drina - Vancouver BC (READ-1025)

Rebinsky, Dean - Kamloops BC (REBINSKY-0424)

Redican, Michael - Quathiaski Cove BC (REDICAN-0681)

Reed, Harry - Ladysmith BC (REED-0538)

Reed, Mark - Victoria BC (REED-0863)

Reel, Dona - Gibsons BC (REEL-1053)

Reford, Al - Victoria BC (REFORD-0631)

Reford, Al - Victoria BC (REFORD-1573)

Reimer, Andrea - Vancouver BC (REIMER-1575)

Rempel, E E - Abbotsford BC (REMPEL-1500)

Renke, Regina Celia Oliveria Bueno - Vancouver BC (RENKE-1201)

Reston, Laura - Richmond BC (RESTON-0749), (RESTON-0887)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Retterath, Gunter - Winlaw BC (RETTERATH-0846)

Reynolds, Carolanne - West Vancouver BC (REYNOLDS-1666)

Reynolds, Gil - Abbotsford BC (REYNOLDS-1551)

Rhodes, Robert - Comox BC (RHODES-0703)

Rhodes, Tim - Victoria BC (RHODES-0734)

Rice, Devra - Kelowna BC (RICE-0407)

Richardson, Donalda - Refuge Cove BC (RICHARDSON-1521)

Richardson, Edward - Maple Ridge BC (RICHARDSON-0154)

Richardson, John - Vancouver BC (RICHARDSON-0895)

Richardson, Stuart - Port Moody BC (RICHARDSON-1449)

Riches, Michael - Vancouver BC (RICHES-1219)

Richie, Robert Executive Director The Center for Voting and Democracy - Takoma Park Maryland USA (RICHIE-1383)

Ridings, Terry - Salt Spring Island BC (RIDINGS-0334)

Rightmire, Linda - Pinantan Lake BC (RIGHTMIRE-1059)

Ringwald, Ursula - Kaslo BC (RINGWALD-1354)

Ritchie, Ken – London England UK (RITCHIE-1092)

Robb, Donald - Sechelt BC (ROBB-1403)

Roberge, Lester - White Rock BC (ROBERGE-0956)

Roberts, Julia M - Castlegar BC (ROBERTS-0356)

Robinson, Gary - Victoria BC (ROBINSON-0105)

Robinson, Leslie - Victoria BC (ROBINSON-0995)

Rocheford, Barbara - Sechelt BC (ROCHEFORD-1581)

Roessingh, Karel - Victoria BC (ROESSINGH-0961)

Roman, River - Abbotsford BC (ROMAN-0606)

Ronback, James - Tsawwassen BC (RONBACK-0020), (RONBACK-0026), (RONBACK-0030), (RONBACK-0031), (RONBACK-0034), (RONBACK-0037), (RONBACK-0070), (RONBACK-0128), (RONBACK-0267), (RONBACK-0271), (RONBACK-0300)

Ronne, Joel - Vancouver BC (RONNE-0638)

Roper, John - Gibsons BC (ROPER-0530)

Rose, Marian - Vancouver BC (ROSE-0773)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Rothman, Zac - Vancouver BC (ROTHMAN-0836)

Rouillon, Stephane - Montreal Quebec (ROUILLON-0065)

Roulleau, Marie - Victoria BC (ROULLEAU-1024)

Roux, Judith - Gabriola Island BC (ROUX-0480)

Rowsome, Gerald - Surrey BC (ROWSOME-0515)

Roxburgh, Ken - Quathiaski Cove BC (ROXBURGH-0188)

Rush, Kathleen - Grand Forks BC (RUSH-1077)

Russell, Tyson - Kelowna BC (RUSSELL-0761)

Rycroft, Alan - Victoria BC (RYCROFT-1069)

Ryley, Cecilia C - Comox BC (RYLEY-0406)

S

Sadlish, James - North Saanich BC (SADLISH-0891)

Sager, Maureen - Port Alberni BC (SAGER-0603)

Salmi, Olli - Taivassalo Finland (SALMI-1668)

Sampson, Diane - Bowser BC (SAMPSON-0428)

Sandborn, Tom - Vancouver BC (SANDBORN-1164)

Santowski, Britt - Victoria BC (SANTOWSKI-1075)

Sarria, AnaMaria - Kelowna BC (SARRIA-0249)

Saumur, Lucien - Kanata (Ottawa) Ontario (SAUMUR-0052)

Savage, Mary - Victoria BC (SAVAGE-1029)

Sawatsky, Chris - Abbotsford BC (SAWATSKY-0680)

Sawatsky, Lawrence - Cranbrook BC (SAWATSKY-0694)

Saxby, Phil - Wellington New Zealand (SAXBY-1393)

Scarlett, Donald - Kaslo BC (SCARLETT-0474), (SCARLETT-1392)

Scheuneman, Eric - Maberly Ontario (SCHEUNEMAN-0881)

Schindeler, Fred Dr - McDonalds Corners Ontario (SCHINDELER-1437)

Schmidt, Ernest President United People's Action Party - Kamloops BC (SCHMIDT-1233)

Schmidt, Evelyn - Nanaimo BC (SCHMIDT-1378)

Schmidt, Jen - Victoria BC (SCHMIDT-1173)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Schoeller, Caitrina - Victoria BC (SCHOELLER-0420)

Schoepp, Renota - Vancouver BC (SCHOEPP-1189)

Scholefield, Peter - West Vancouver BC (SCHOLEFIELD-0061), (SCHOLEFIELD-0436)

Schortinghuis, Arno - Vancouver BC (SCHORTINGHUIS-0958)

Schotte, Martin - Parksville BC (SCHOTTE-0077), (SCHOTTE-0960)

Schroder, Jill - Vancouver BC (SCHRODER-0220)

Schubart, Dan - Port Alberni BC (SCHUBART-1384)

Schuh, Shawna - Grand Forks BC (SCHUH-1081)

Schulmann, Bernard - Victoria BC (SCHULMANN-0882)

Schulze, Markus - Berlin Germany (SCHULZE-1618)

Schwartz, Bryan Professor of Law University of Manitoba – Winnipeg Manitoba (SCHWARTZ-0051), (SCHWARTZ-1619)

Sclater, Gordon - Vancouver BC (SCLATER-0482)

Scott, Edward - Sechelt BC (SCOTT-0089)

Scott, Ken - Victoria BC (SCOTT-0516)

Sears, Catriona - Victoria BC (SEARS-0613)

Sebelova, Jana - Vancouver BC (SEBELOVA-0639)

Segstro, Dirk - Procter BC (SEGSTRO-1162)

Sellentin, Ernie - Comox BC (SELLENTIN-1037)

Semenoff, John J - Grand Forks BC (SEMENOFF-1214)

Senay, Charlotte - Sooke BC (SENAY-1535)

Sengsouvanh, Vilayvanh - Victoria BC (SENGSOUVANH-0573)

Senichenko, Geoffrey - Sechelt BC (SENICHENKO-1061)

Seto, David - Montreal Québec (SETO-0252)

Seto, David - Montréal Québec (SETO-1620)

Shannon, E M (Bunny) - Union Bay BC (SHANNON-0352)

Sharp, Jacqueline - Burnaby BC (SHARP-0901)

Shaver, Howard - Ottawa Ontario (SHAVER-1621)

Sheppard, Tyler - Kelowna BC (SHEPPARD-0233)

Sherlock, Mary - Vancouver BC (SHERLOCK-0240)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Sherrington, Paula - Slocan BC (SHERRINGTON-0401)

Shields, Lynne - Victoria BC (SHIELDS-1493)

Shirley, Christopher - Vancouver BC (SHIRLEY-0655), (SHIRLEY-1000)

Short, Richard - Kamloops BC (SHORT-0614), (SHORT-0649)

Shorten, Richard Leigh - Victoria BC (SHORTEN-1260)

Shuff, Tim - Abbotsford BC (SHUFF-1186)

Sidor, Penny - Gabriola Island BC (SIDOR-0317)

Sieber, Patricia - Revelstoke BC (SIEBER-0246)

Silman, Janet The Reverend Dr - North Saanich BC (SILMAN-0250)

Simon, Derek - Victoria BC (SIMON-0460)

Simons, Brendan - Victoria BC (SIMONS-0768)

Simpson, Floyd - Parksville BC (SIMPSON-0160)

Simpson, Marcella - Campbell River BC (SIMPSON-1524)

Simpson, Robert V - Richmond BC (SIMPSON-1436)

Sjogren, Chris and Dee Dee - Halfmoon Bay BC (SJOGREN-0514)

Skanks, Mark - Victoria BC (SKANKS-0201)

Skwarok, James - Victoria BC (SKWAROK-1036)

Slater, Bert - North Saanich BC (SLATER-1334)

Slater, Jon Dr - Courtenay BC (SLATER-0306)

Slavin, D Ruth - Victoria BC (SLAVIN-1044)

Sleeman, Ann-Marie - Vancouver BC (SLEEMAN-0842)

Slogar, Duane - Victoria BC (SLOGAR-1293)

Small, Charles - Burnaby BC (SMALL-1177)

Smith, Jack C - Westbank BC (SMITH-0831)

Smith, Jules - North Vancouver BC (SMITH-0221)

Smith, Louise C - Fort Langley BC (SMITH-0437)

Smith, Margaret R - Nelson BC (SMITH-1475)

Smith, Mark A - Burnaby BC (SMITH-0019)

Smith, Paul and Pauline - Penticton BC (SMITH-1416)

Smith, Richard - Duncan BC (SMITH-0598)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Snider, Jessica - Ladysmith BC (SNIDER-0850)

Soder, Murray - Oliver BC (SODER-0738)

Solie, Iris and Allan - New Westminster BC (SOLIE-0012)

Sorensen, Daniel - Chilliwack BC (SORENSEN-0663)

Sorensen, Jeff - Victoria BC (SORENSEN-0748)

Sorenson, Jay - Abbotsford BC (SORENSON-0609)

Sorenson, Vi - Kelowna BC (SORENSON-0245), (SORENSON-0984)

Soules, Donna - Ladysmith BC (SOULES-1529)

Sowton, Bronwen Merle - Pender Island BC (SOWTON-0699)

Spencer, Mary Christine - Lillooet BC (SPENCER-1351)

Spencer, William - Lillooet BC (SPENCER-1349)

Spice, Gerald A (Jerry) - Kamloops BC (SPICE-0745)

Sprague, Lois J - Salt Spring Island BC (SPRAGUE-1512)

Spurr, Peter - Saanich BC (SPURR-0396)

St Pierre, Paul - Fort Langley BC (ST PIERRE-0006)

Stainsby, Cliff - Cobble Hill BC (STAINSBY-0983)

Stallard, Sara - Victoria BC (STALLARD-0353)

Stanley, David - Nanaimo BC (STANLEY-1339)

Stanwood, Brandy - Castlegar BC (STANWOOD-0607)

Stapff, Christian - Campbell River BC (STAPFF-0068)

Stark, Jodi - Vancouver BC (STARK-0902)

Starke, Justine - Saltspring Island BC (STARKE-1099)

Stead, Humphrey - Crofton BC (STEAD-0095), (STEAD-0506)

Steghaus, Uli - Whaletown BC (STEGHAUS-1557)

Sterk, Jane - Victoria BC (STERK-0360)

Steves, Judy - Kamloops BC (STEVES-1442)

Stewart, Brian - Enderby BC (STEWART-1538)

Stewart, Donald C - Victoria BC (STEWART-1243)

Stewart, Jack - Chilliwack BC (STEWART-0033)

Stewart, Kathleen - Victoria BC (STEWART-1400)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Stewart, Michael - Comox BC (STEWART-1217)

Stewart, William - Sooke BC (STEWART-1304)

Stickney, Maureen - Salmon Arm BC (STICKNEY-1467)

Stief, Manfred E - Fort St John BC (STIEF-0280)

Stirling, Christine - Vancouver BC (STIRLING-1556)

Stirling, Ian W - North Vancouver BC (STIRLING-0048)

Stocco, Denise - Victoria BC (STOCCO-0536)

Stocker, Suzanne - Cawston BC (STOCKER-1049)

Stockwell, Carol - North Vancouver BC (STOCKWELL-0807)

Stoodley, Marion - Victoria BC (STOODLEY-0604), (STOODLEY-0822)

Stortz, Peggy - West Vancouver BC (STORTZ-0302)

Stowell, Reg - Kitimat BC (STOWELL-0043)

Strang, R M Dr - Surrey BC (STRANG-0102)

Stratemeyer, Georg - Duncan BC (STRATEMEYER-0849)

Street, Shera - Galiano Island BC (STREET-1622)

Stroes, Linda - Merritt BC (STROES-1265)

Strom, Don - Langley BC (STROM-0664)

Strumecki, Elmer - Victoria BC (STRUMECKI-1429)

Stuart, Ailsa - Worthing West Sussex England UK (STUART-1523)

Sullivan, Richard - Victoria BC (SULLIVAN-1017)

Summers, Mike - Vanderhoof BC (SUMMERS-1623)

Sutherland, Harry - North Vancouver BC (SUTHERLAND-0466)

Sutherland, Neil Dr - Surrey BC (SUTHERLAND-0341)

Sutherland, Neil Dr - Surrey BC (SUTHERLAND-1624)

Swanson, Ed - Vancouver BC (SWANSON-0719)

Swanson, Lori - Fruitvale BC (SWANSON-1043)

Swartz, Nancy and Jerry - Salt Spring Island BC (SWARTZ-1517)

Sweeny, Sedley - Cortes Island BC (SWEENY-1483)

Swintak, Orest - Kelowna BC (SWINTAK-1478)

Sylvester, Margaret - Victoria BC (SYLVESTER-1327)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

T

Tan, Sid Chow - Vancouver BC (TAN-0844)

Tanchak, Beverly - Sechelt BC (TANCHAK-0840)

Tarling, Graham - Victoria BC (TARLING-0039)

Tarplett, Robert - North Vancouver BC (TARPLETT-0120), (TARPLETT-0490), (TARPLETT-1377)

Taylor, Angus - Victoria BC (TAYLOR-0693)

Taylor, Audrey - Burnaby BC (TAYLOR-0320)

Taylor, Graeme - Victoria BC (TAYLOR-0447)

Taylor, Robert - Clearwater BC (TAYLOR-0589)

Taylor, Rosalind - Victoria BC (TAYLOR-1462)

Taylor, T M - Brentwood Bay BC (TAYLOR-1504)

Taylor, Zella - Prince George BC (TAYLOR-1452)

Taylor-Munro, Sheryl - Salt Spring Island BC (TAYLOR-MUNRO-0458)

Tebbitt, Jillian - Saturna Island BC (TEBBITT-0797)

Tebbutt, Peter - Powell River BC (TEBBUTT-0364)

Tenenbaum, Harvey - Toronto Ontario (TENENBAUM-0101)

Thatcher, Osa - Kaslo BC (THATCHER-1527)

Thomas, Gordon - Mill Bay BC (THOMAS-0608)

Thomas, Jacqueline - Saltspring Island BC (THOMAS-0184)

Thomas, Rhona - Burnaby BC (THOMAS-0632)

Thompson, Anne and Amy - Coquitlam BC (THOMPSON-1501)

Thompson, Bob - Courtenay BC (THOMPSON-1056)

Thompson, Caitlin - Courtenay BC (THOMPSON-1054)

Thompson, David - Vancouver BC (THOMPSON-0898)

Thompson, John - Coquitlam BC (THOMPSON-0526), (THOMPSON-1276)

Thompson, Peter - Prince George BC (THOMPSON-1311)

Thompson, Zoe - Courtenay BC (THOMPSON-1057)

Thomsen, Anders - Kelowna BC (THOMSEN-0505)

Thomsen, Mike - Victoria BC (THOMSEN-0335)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Thornburgh, Jack - Port Alberni BC (THORNBURGH-1336)

Thorsen, Jan Dr - Victoria BC (THORSEN-1050)

Thyer, Norman - Nelson BC (THYER-0214)

Tieleman, Bill - Vancouver BC (TIELEMAN-1232)

Tilley, Joseph - Surrey BC (TILLEY-1350)

Tilson, Justin - Vancouver BC (TILSON-1170)

Tindley, Stephen - Vancouver BC (TINDLEY-1625)

Todd, Stephen - Miramar Wellington New Zealand (TODD-0132)

Tondowsky, Adam - Richmond BC (TONDOWSKY-1344)

Tonnesen, Steve - New Hazelton BC (TONNESEN-0195)

Townsend, Lise - Victoria BC (TOWNSEND-0750)

Tracy, Myrna - Kelowna BC (TRACY-0410)

Tropp, Mike - Vancouver BC (TROPP-1461)

Trummler, Steve - Langley BC (TRUMMLER-1407)

Tsai, Jeffrey - Nelson BC (TSAI-0380)

Tuffin, Anthony - Selsey Chichester England UK (TUFFIN-0116)

Turik, Todd - Victoria BC (TURIK-1139), (TURIK-1583)

Turpin, James - Victoria BC (TURPIN-0534)

U

Uhlmann, Sasha - Powell River BC (UHLMANN-0946)

Ullstrom, Garry - Alert Bay BC (ULLSTROM-0476)

Ure, Audrey Dr - Kaleden BC (URE-0965)

Ure, Sherry Dr - Kaleden BC (URE-0963)

Urech PhD, Jacques - Nelson BC (URECH-0402)

V

Vaio, Ernest - Sooke BC (VAIO-0504)

Van Der Goes, Jonathon - Cedar BC (VAN DER GOES-1427)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Van der Green, Joanne - Sechelt BC (VAN DER GREEN-1496)

Van der Veen, Jessica - Victoria BC (VAN DER VEEN-0171), (VAN DER VEEN-1308)

van Kessel, Hans - Gabriola Island BC (VAN KESSEL-0879)

Van Slyke, J Victor - Vancouver BC (VAN SLYKE-0277)

van Thienen, Frank - Vernon BC (VAN THIENEN-0542)

Van Wart, Arthur - Vancouver BC (VAN WART-0811)

VandeVelde, Mike - Hope BC (VANDEVELDE-0330)

Varan, Viviane - Lake Cowichan BC (VARAN-1194)

Vardy, Mark - Victoria BC (VARDY-0349)

Varzeliotis, A N Thomas - Salt Spring Island BC (VARZELIOTIS-0074), (VARZELIOTIS-0596), (VARZELIOTIS-0746), (VARZELIOTIS-0780), (VARZELIOTIS-0804), (VARZELIOTIS-0805), (VARZELIOTIS-0851), (VARZELIOTIS-0876), (VARZELIOTIS-0877), (VARZELIOTIS-0886), (VARZELIOTIS-0889), (VARZELIOTIS-0890), (VARZELIOTIS-0893), (VARZELIOTIS-0904), (VARZELIOTIS-0910), (VARZELIOTIS-1209), (VARZELIOTIS-1353), (VARZELIOTIS-1642)

Vasko, Zuzana - Maple Ridge BC (VASKO-0550)

Veerman, Martha - West Vancouver BC (VEERMAN-0144)

Vegt, Hannah - New Westminster BC (VEGT-0177)

Vegt, John - New Westminster BC (VEGT-0062)

Vela, Vincent - Burnaby BC (VELA-0056)

Verhulst, Glenys - Victoria BC (VERHULST-0567)

Vernon, Caitlyn - Salt Spring Island BC (VERNON-0808)

Vernon, Philip - Salt Spring Island BC (VERNON-0821)

Verwey, Norma Ellen Dr - Victoria BC (VERWEY-1435)

Vlasblom, Gozewijn - Sechelt BC (VLASBLOM-0080)

Vogt, Harry - Merritt BC (VOGT-1440)

Vogt, John - Prince George BC (VOGT-0658)

W

Wade, Adrian P Dr - Richmond BC (WADE-0023)

Waelti-Walters, Jennifer Dr - Victoria BC (WAELTI-WALTERS-0600)

Wagner, Kathleen - North Vancouver BC (WAGNER-0817), (WAGNER-1626)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Waines, Brian - Burnaby BC (WAINES-1649)
Waldman, Lorne - Vancouver BC (WALDMAN-0883)
Walker, Jewel - Burnaby BC (WALKER-0453)
Waller, John Dr - Delta BC (WALLER-0094)
Walsh, Denis - Kamloops BC (WALSH-0982)
Walsh, Stephen - Vancouver BC (WALSH-0903)
Walter, Gita - Winlaw BC (WALTER-1291)
Walton, Laurel - Castlegar BC (WALTON-1040)
Ward, Drew - Gibsons BC (WARD-0720)
Ward, James Cecil - Procter BC (WARD-0866)
Warren, Patrick Lee - Vancouver BC (WARREN-0498)
Warren, Phillip W - Delta BC (WARREN-0157), (WARREN-0993)
Warrington, Grant - Victoria BC (WARRINGTON-0434)
Wasson, Ian - Vancouver BC (WASSON-0900)
Watkins, Peggy - Vancouver BC (WATKINS-0202)
Watson, John - North Vancouver BC (WATSON-1627)
Watt, Robert D - North Vancouver BC (WATT-0645)
Watts, Donald Dr - Creston BC (WATTS-0979), (WATTS-0150)
Way, Dave - Vancouver BC (WAY-1628)
Weatherill, Richard - Victoria BC (WEATHERILL-0786)
Weaver, Betty - Lillooet BC (WEAVER-1306)
Webster, Alan - Surrey BC (WEBSTER-0393)
Weese, Gordon - Nelson BC (WEESE-1338)
Wege, Rita - Nelson BC (WEGE-0263)
Weideman, Martin - Nanaimo BC (WEIDEMAN-0657)
Weller, Michael - Surrey BC (WELLER-1224)
Welling, Andrea - Langley BC (WELLING-0219)
Wellman, R Todd - Victoria BC (WELLMAN-0265), (WELLMAN-0966)
Wells, April - Masset BC (WELLS-0678)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Wera, Guy - Vancouver BC (WERA-1629)

West, John Allen - Hornby Island BC (WEST-0010), (WEST-0066),

West, John Allen and Virginia Ayers - New Westminster BC (WEST AND AYERS-0109), (WEST AND AYERS-0081)

West, Julian Dr - Ladysmith BC (WEST-0467)

Westendorp, Jody - Delta BC (WESTENDORP-0239)

Weston, Paddy - Kelowna BC (WESTON-0236)

Westran, Joan - Victoria BC (WESTRAN-0688)

Westren, Susan - Quathiaski Cove BC (WESTREN-0627)

Weyenberg, Christine - Victoria BC (WEYENBERG-0855)

Wheatley, Michael - Victoria BC (WHEATLEY-0581), (WHEATLEY-0602), (WHEATLEY-0629), (WHEATLEY-0752), (WHEATLEY-0753), (WHEATLEY-1240)

Wheeler, Sue - Lasqueti Island BC (WHEELER-1414)

Whistler, John - Vancouver BC (WHISTLER-0934)

White, Brian - Victoria BC (WHITE-0414)

Whittles, Arthur - Nanaimo BC (WHITTLES-1597)

Whittles, Brice - Nanaimo BC (WHITTLES-0338)

Whysall, Joel - Vancouver BC (WHYSALL-0839)

Whyte, Kathleen - North Vancouver BC (WHYTE-0276)

Wichmann, Brian - Woking Surrey England UK (WICHMANN-0230)

Wicks, Lesley - Sanichton BC (WICKS-1428)

Wiebe, Andrea Executive Councillor BCNU - Burnaby BC (WIEBE-1430)

Wiebe, Gregory Allan - Grindrod BC (WIEBE-1458)

Wiebe, John - Delta BC (WIEBE-0764)

Wiegand, Janet - Vancouver BC (WIEGAND-0524)

Wieland, William C - Keremos BC (WIELAND-1450)

Wilke, Lars - Vancouver BC (WILKE-0242)

Wilkie, K - Smithers BC (WILKIE-1522)

Wilkie, Sharon - Richmond BC (WILKIE-0282)

Wilkinson, Chadwick - Elko BC (WILKINSON-0568)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Wilkinson, Heather - Courtenay BC (WILKINSON-0354)

Wilkinson, Joanna - Victoria BC (WILKINSON-0355)

Williams, Tom - Mayne Island BC (WILLIAMS-1382)

Williams (Loveless), Susan - Victoria BC (WILLIAMS (LOVELESS)-1198)

Wilson, Anne - Qualicum Beach BC (WILSON-0705)

Wilson, Cindy L. - Duncan BC (WILSON-0119)

Wilson, Daphne M - Vernon BC (WILSON-1507)

Wilson, Jennifer - Vancouver BC (WILSON-1004)

Wilson, Kevin - Vancouver BC (WILSON-0297)

Wilson, Walter - Qualicum Beach BC (WILSON-0204), (WILSON-1255)

Wilson, William - Qualicum Beach BC (WILSON-1225)

Wipond, Rob - Victoria BC (WIPOND-0268)

Wiseman, J D A - UK (WISEMAN-0008)

Wiseman Reed, Gail - Ladysmith BC (WISEMAN REED-0535)

Woffenden, Cliff - Nakusp BC (WOFFENDEN-0296)

Wolter, Marcia - Quathiaski Cove BC (WOLTER-1654)

Wood, Mairlynn - Lumby BC (WOOD-0933), (WOOD-1018)

Wood, Peter Dr and Ann - South Slocan BC (WOOD-0331)

Woodcock, Val - Vernon BC (WOODCOCK-1247)

Woodworth, Elizabeth - Victoria BC (WOODWORTH-1121)

Woodworth, Freda - Victoria BC (WOODWORTH-1079), (WOODWORTH-1190)

Woodworth, Garth - Victoria BC (WOODWORTH-1016), (WOODWORTH-1331)

Woodworth, Sabra - North Vancouver BC (WOODWORTH-1200)

Work, Inger - Abbotsford BC (WORK-0464)

Wornell, Heather - Vancouver BC (WORNELL-1307)

Wortis, Michael - Burnaby BC (WORTIS-0166)

Wright, Donna Jean - New Denver BC (WRIGHT-1471)

Wright, Eleanor - Lillooet BC (WRIGHT-1385)

Wyeth, Michael - Victoria BC (WYETH-0802)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Y

Yahemech, Tania - Sooke BC (YAHEMECH-1212)

Yates, Susan - Gabriola Island BC (YATES-0323)

Yeates, Barb - Richmond BC (YEATES-1155)

Yee, Scott - Vancouver BC (YEE-1669)

Young, Ian and Sonja - Victoria BC (YOUNG-0381)

Young, Marilyn - Vancouver BC (YOUNG-1191)

Young, Victor M - Horsefly BC (YOUNG-1446)

Youngreen, Gustav - Winlaw BC (YOUNGREEN-1274)

Yurchak, Ruchel - Surrey BC (YURCHAK-0636), (YURCHAK-0970)

Z

Zamfirescu, Marian - Maple Ridge BC (ZAMFIRESCU-1664)

Zammuto, Ricak and Julie - Crescent Spur BC (ZAMMUTO-0281)

Zang, Robert - Fraser Lake BC (ZANG-0343), (ZANG-0973)

Zarb, Michael - Cobble Hill BC (ZARB-1226)

Zasburg, Eric - Sechelt BC (ZASBURG-1652)

Zenger, Ruth - Blind Bay BC (ZENGER-1564)

Ziegler, Maggie - Salt Spring Island BC (ZIEGLER-0677)

Zimmer, Barbara - Valemount BC (ZIMMER-0291)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Organizations

2002 Initiative to Establish a Proportional Representation Electoral System in BC (CARR-0287)

All Nations Party of British Columbia (MOSES-1648)

BC Democratic Alliance (ALLINGTON-1250)

BC Democratic Futures Party (BESTER-0213)

BC Government and Service Employees' Union (HEYMAN-0847)

Canadian Action Party (CASSIDYNE-HOOK-0733)

Canadian Taxpayers Federation (LANIGAN-0397)

Canadians for Peace and Socialism (CURRIE-1271)

Center for Collaborative Democracy (ERDMAN-0141)

Church of the Universe (LOEHNDORF-0755)

Committee for Voting Equity in BC (Equity BC) (ANDERSON-1635)

Constitutional Test Case Centre of theFaculty of Law University of Toronto (BEATTY-0135)

Counterflow Community Consulting Cooperative (C4) (CALLIHOO-0210)

Electoral Reform Society [UK] (RITCHIE-1092)

Endorsed by Equal Voice (WIEGAND-0524)

Equichoice Divison of Harten Investments Ltd (TENENBAUM-0101)

Equity and Justice Research and Development Foundation (FISHER-BRADLEY-0792)

Fair Vote Canada (ANDERSON-1639)

Fairshare Voting Reform (GILMOUR-0795)

First Nations Summit (JOHN-0001), (JOHN-0005)

Free Your Vote - Pro Rep Society (GEORGE-1347)

Free Your Vote Society (CHILTON-0053), (CHILTON-0054), (CHILTON-0558)

Green Party (NUTTALL-0187)

Green Party of BC (CARR-0635)

Indo-Canadians for Minority Representation (RANA-0058)

Jeramy Appleton Emily Chalmers Mike Baker (SCHOELLER-0420)

Mid Island Chapter of the Council of Canadians (FOX-0461)

Appendix: Written Submissions (continued)

Moonfire Studio (GRIGNON-0153)

The British Columbia Nurses' Union (WIEBE-1430)

The Broad Coalition (CLARKE-1337)

The Center for Voting and Democracy (RICHIE-1383)

The de Borda Institute [UK] (EMERSON-0093)

The Every Vote Counts Campaign (HANSON-0525)

The Vancouver Board of Trade (FULFORD-0799)

UBC Campus Green Party (LYMWORTH-0139)

United People's Action Party (SCHMIDT-1233)

University Women's Club of Richmond (GARNETT-0345)

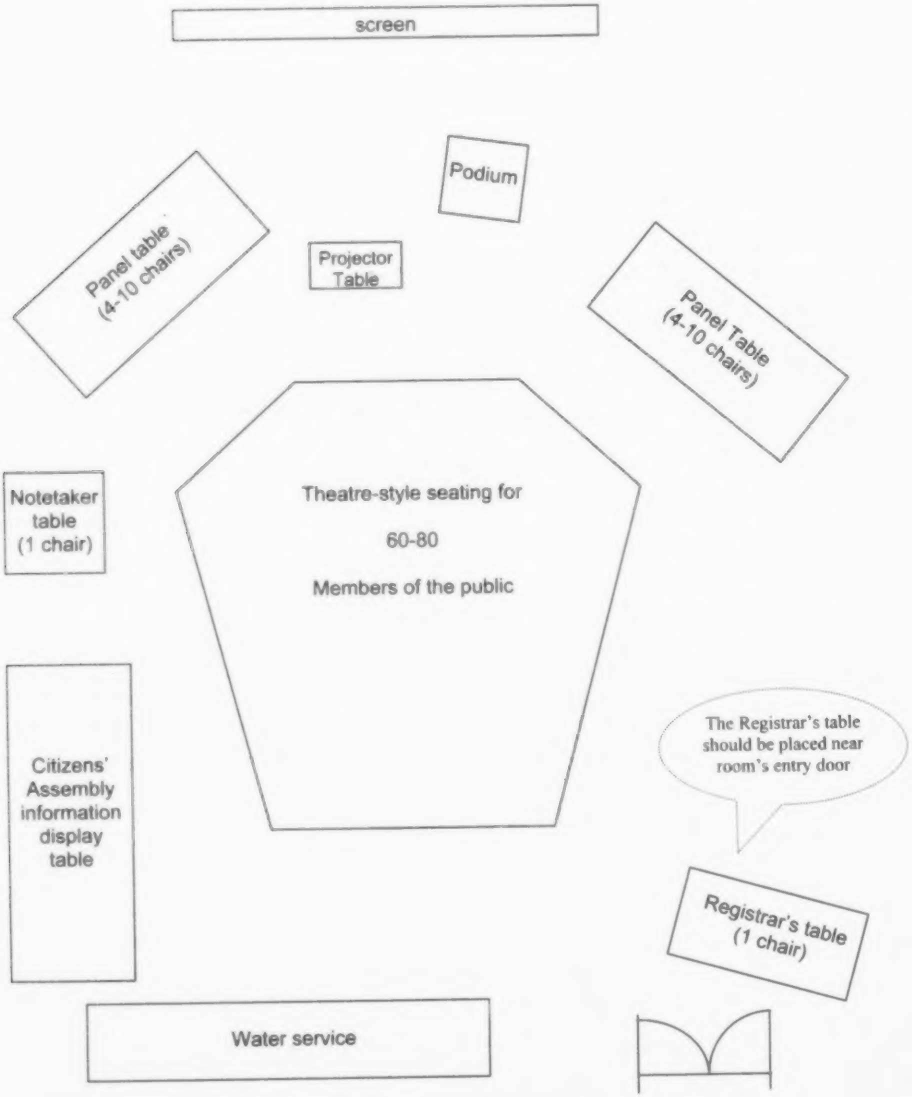
Victoria Chapter Council of Canadians (ARBESS-1031)

West Coast Legal and Education Action Fund -BC branch of the national Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (JOHNSON-1102)

Appendix: Formal Hearing Layout

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform Public Hearings—Room Layout

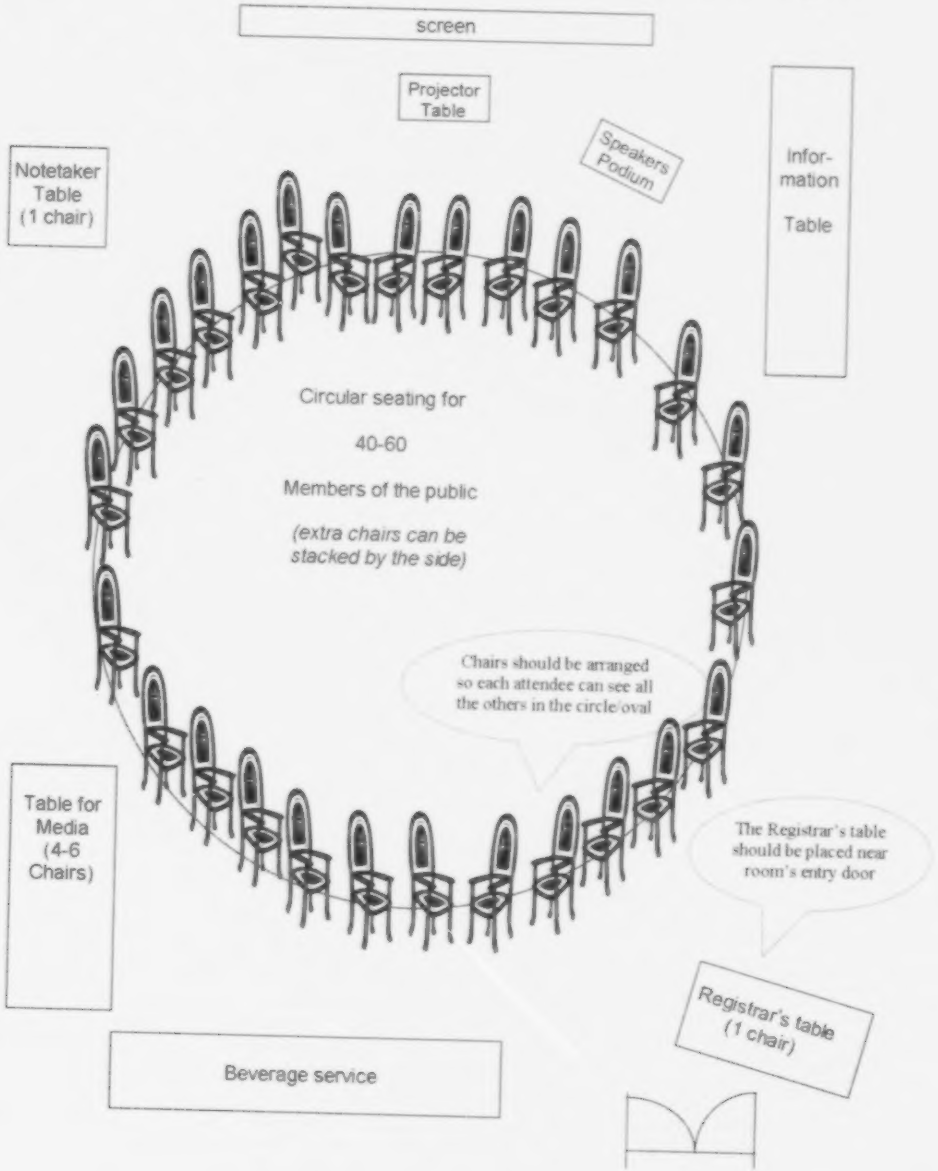

screen
Podium
Panel table (4-10 chairs)
Projector Table
Panel Table (4-10 chairs)
Notetaker table (1 chair)
Theatre-style seating for
60-80
Members of the public
Citizens' Assembly information display table
Registrar's table (1 chair)
Water service

The Registrar's table should be placed near room's entry door

Appendix: Informal Hearing Layout

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform
Public Hearings—Room Layout


screen
Projector Table
Speakers Podium
Notetaker Table (1 chair)
Infor-mation Table
Circular seating for
40-60
Members of the public
(extra chairs can be stacked by the side)
Table for Media (4-6 Chairs)
Registrar's table (1 chair)
Beverage service

Chairs should be arranged so each attendee can see all the others in the circle/oval

The Registrar's table should be placed near room's entry door

Appendix: Critical Path for Decision

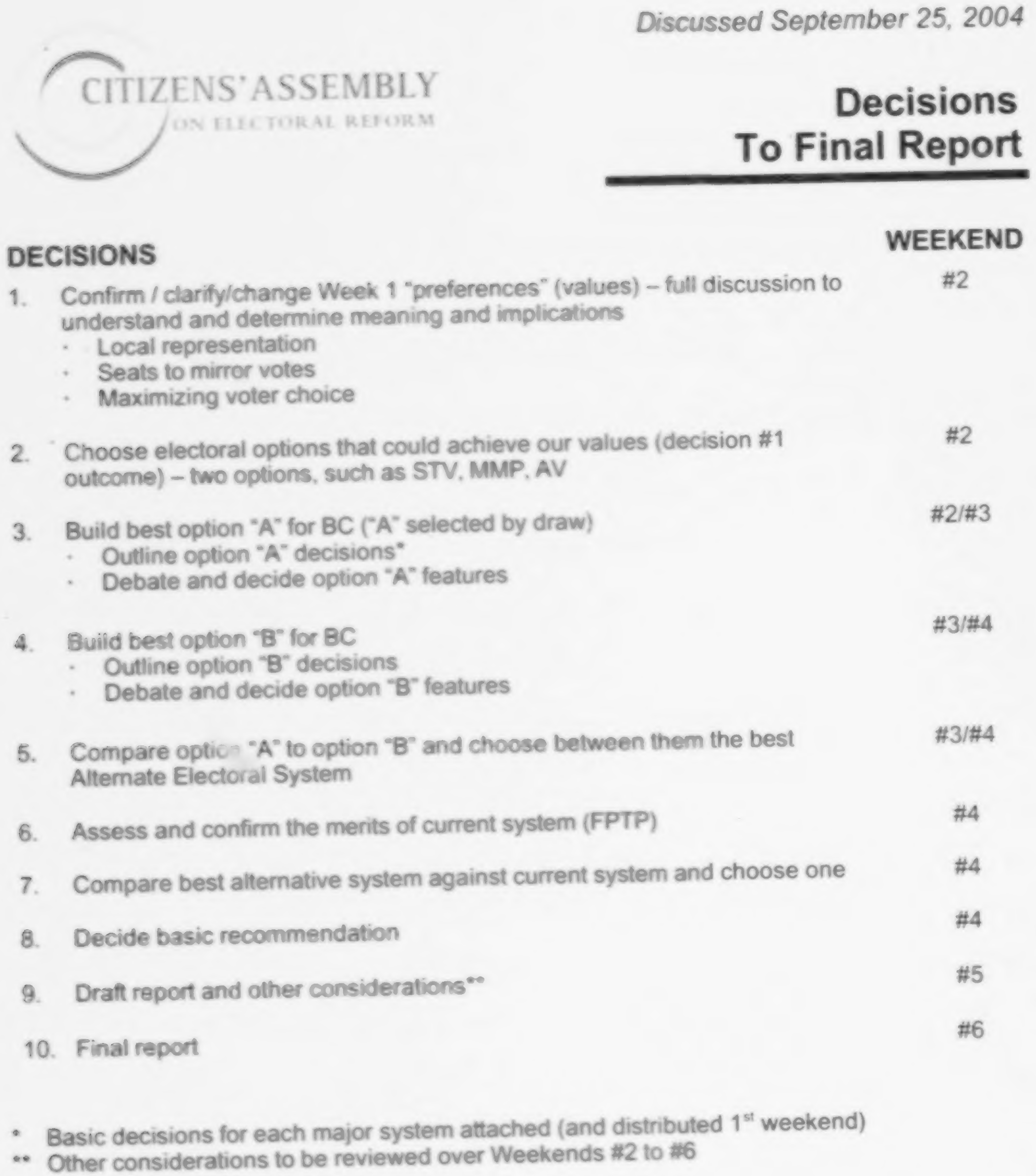
	WEEK I	WEEK II	WEEK III	WEEK IV	WEEK V	WEEK VI
Saturday	**Sept 11-12** Plenary presentations on: · Electoral systems · Aspects to consider in choosing an electoral system Overview of submissions *	**Sept 25-26** Make key decisions in choosing an electoral system for BC: · Whether/how to accommodate local representation? · Some measure of proportionality or non-proportional? · If non-proportional, the current system or majority variation? · If proportional, criteria for proportional component? · What ballot choices?	**Oct 16-17** Discussion on details of potential alternative electoral system(s) (e.g., ballot design, thresholds, quotas, etc.)	**Oct 23-24** Pin down the implications of an alternate system: · How would this system work? · What effects would it have on governments, parties and politics in BC? · Possible unintended consequences? · Is it consistent with the mandate? Review current system	**Nov 13-14** If a new system: · Details of implementation · Rationale for recommendation · Framing the referendum question OR If no change: · Rationale for recommendation · Move to 'other considerations' Consideration of draft elements of Report contents	**Nov 27-28** Assembly approval of CA Report to BC Discussion and approval of 'other considerations'
Saturday Evening	Plenary discussion of presentations and submissions (closed to the public and media)					Wrap-up celebration
Sunday	Prepare for key decisions: review upcoming choices in view of our priorities for BC and the values reflected in possible electoral systems	Continue discussion on choosing an electoral system Implications for voters, parties and governments Identify possible and reasonable alternative electoral system(s)	Decision: choose alternate electoral system to consider in relation to current system	Decision: current or new system?		Complete outstanding matters

* A review of submissions of particular interest will be held during the last hour of the Saturday afternoon session.

Appendix: Presentations to the Assembly (Session One)

PRESENTER	TOPIC
Nick Loenen	STV-AV
Julian West	STV
Tom Hoenisch	MMP
Katherine Gordon	MMP
Arpal Donsanjh	AV
Chris Morey	local representation
Jim Nielsen	first-past-the-post
Ian McKinnon	consequences of changing the system
Bruce Hallsor	comparison of STV and MMP

Appendix: 10 Decisions



Discussed September 25, 2004

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Decisions
To Final Report

DECISIONS	WEEKEND
1. Confirm / clarify/change Week 1 "preferences" (values) – full discussion to understand and determine meaning and implications · Local representation · Seats to mirror votes · Maximizing voter choice	#2
2. Choose electoral options that could achieve our values (decision #1 outcome) – two options, such as STV, MMP, AV	#2
3. Build best option "A" for BC ("A" selected by draw) · Outline option "A" decisions* · Debate and decide option "A" features	#2/#3
4. Build best option "B" for BC · Outline option "B" decisions · Debate and decide option "B" features	#3/#4
5. Compare option "A" to option "B" and choose between them the best Alternate Electoral System	#3/#4
6. Assess and confirm the merits of current system (FPTP)	#4
7. Compare best alternative system against current system and choose one	#4
8. Decide basic recommendation	#4
9. Draft report and other considerations**	#5
10. Final report	#6

* Basic decisions for each major system attached (and distributed 1st weekend)

** Other considerations to be reviewed over Weekends #2 to #6

Appendix: 10 Decisions (continued)

Decisions required to identify an alternate Electoral System

If the Assembly decides to recommend an alternative electoral system, these are the basic decisions that it would be necessary to make in identifying a model for British Columbia.

Plurality	None – the status quo (Any desired fine-tuning?)
Majority	Provision for preferential ballots and vote transfer rules OR sequential balloting scheme
STV	District magnitude(s) – uniform or varied across the province Ballot completion rules Quota & vote transfer rules Seat vacancy provision
List PR	Ballot form – open or closed list One or more tiers (and basis for them) The formula or quota used to determine party allocations The threshold(s) Seat vacancy provision
Mixed	Mixed Majoritarian (MMM) or Mixed Proportional (MMP) The balance between local candidate and proportional seats Candidate eligibility (local *and/or* list) List-Constituency compatibility provisions Seat vacancy provisions for both parts of the system: ***Candidate seats*** Majority or plurality rule – if majority, then provision for preferential ballots and vote transfer rules OR sequential balloting scheme ***Proportional seats*** Regional or provincial lists Level seats allocated and then assigned (regional or provincial) Ballot form – open or closed list The formula or quota used to determine party allocations The threshold(s) *Mixed Compensatory (MMC)* The rules by which small parties otherwise excluded might be awarded some small number of seats The key questions would be How many? and Who?

Appendix: Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation

January 10-11, 2004

Your 4 letter code: ____________

Note: You will be assigned a random number code so that your responses can remain anonymous to the researchers who will review the data.

Instructions: please rate the following statements according to the following five-point scale:

STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
1	2	3	4	5

WEEKEND SESSION SURVEY		RATING (1-5)
1.	**Participant Support:** Citizens' Assembly staff was readily available and helpful.	
2.	**Preparation:** I felt properly prepared for the session; I knew what to expect; and the pre-reading materials sent to me prior to the session were clear and understandable.	
3.	**Focus:** The presentations remained focused and on topic.	
4.	**Flow:** Over the course of the weekend, I generally felt clear about where we were in the material and never felt lost.	
5.	**Ideas:** I found the ideas presented to be interesting.	
6.	**Learning Materials:** The learning materials handed out this weekend were clear and relevant.	
Presentations (large groups)		
7.	The material was presented clearly.	
8.	The presenter kept my attention.	
9.	The presenter answered questions from the participants well and with care.	
Discussion Groups (small groups)		
10. My discussion leader:	• encouraged everyone to participate.	
11.	• was successful in generating a productive discussion.	
12.	• kept the discussion focused moving forward.	
13.	• remained neutral and did not push his/her ideas on our group.	
14.	• treated everyone with respect and valued all of our opinions.	
General Questions		
15.	**Balance:** There was an appropriate balance between presentations & group discussions.	
16.	**Community:** I am getting to know other members of the Citizens' Assembly and I feel accepted.	
17.	**Commitment:** I feel the work of the Citizens' Assembly is important.	
18.	**Understanding:** The session this weekend raised my level of understanding about electoral systems.	
19.	**Usefulness:** I feel like the session this weekend was a useful start in preparing me for the kinds of decisions I will have to make as a member of the Citizens' Assembly.	
20.	**Value:** Overall, I found the session this weekend to be well worth my time.	
21.	**Enthusiasm:** I am looking forward to the next session.	

Please turn over; the survey continues on the other side.

Appendix: Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation (continued)

22. What did you like ***best*** about the Citizens' Assembly session this weekend?

23. What did you like ***least*** about the session this weekend?

24. What can we do to make the ***next session*** even more effective?

Thank you for taking the time to give us your feedback

Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation • January 10- 11, 2004 • p. 2

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Appendix: Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation (continued)

Summary of Weekend Session Survey Results:

The following information is extracted from a report to the Assembly staff prepared by the external consultant.

Rating Scale:

Participants were asked to rate each survey item on a scale from one to five: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = neutral; 4 = agree; and 5 = strongly agree. The following report converts these ratings to a scale of 1-100 by multiplying each number by 20.

Overview:

An average of 150 CA members completed each of eleven surveys (total = 1,649). The overall average rating was 4.6 out of 5 or 92%—CA members were closer to very satisfied than satisfied. The overall average for the Learning Phase was 92.3%; the overall average for the Deliberation Phase was 91.5%.

The highest overall average was 4.73 or 94.6% (October 23-24); the lowest was 4.46 or 89.2% (September 11-12). The overall average rating only dipped below 90% (<4.5) twice in the eleven sessions.

Conclusion: The high scores are due primarily to the CA staff (effort and professionalism), the CA member experience (rich and meaningful), the process (fair, transparent, and inclusive), and the meaningful mandate of the Assembly (i.e., the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the citizens of BC).

Several CA members remarked that they were amazed that the CA could start on a high note and yet improve as the year went on. Comments like these were confirmed by the CA member survey data.

CA Staff:

- "Participant Support: Citizens' Assembly staff was readily available and helpful." had the highest overall rating in the Deliberation Phase (an almost perfect score of 4.87 or 97.4%) and the second highest overall rating in the Learning Phase (4.86 or 97.2%). The only item that scored higher in the learning phase was "Commitment: I feel the work of the Citizens' Assembly is important," which scored 4.87 or 97.4%.

The CA Experience, Mandate, and Process:

The survey included several questions about aspects of community, focus, commitment, and enthusiasm. Here is a sample of those results.

Appendix: Citizens' Assembly Session Evaluation (continued)

WEEKEND SESSION SURVEY RESULTS	AVERAGE: PHASE 1	AVERAGE: PHASE 3
Commitment: I feel the work of the Citizens' Assembly is important.	97.4%*	n/a
Enthusiasm: I am looking forward to the next session.	97.0%	96.6%
Value: Overall, I found the session this weekend to be well worth my time.	95.0%	94.8%
Focus: CA members are focused on the mandate and committed to the process.	95.0%	n/a
Community: CA members show respect for each other and their opinions.	92.4%	91.4%
Understanding: The session this weekend raised my level of understanding about electoral systems.	92.2%	N/A
Usefulness: I feel like the session this weekend was useful in preparing me for the kinds of decisions I will have to make as a member of the CA.	92.2%	n/a
Open minded: Most CA members are open to hearing new ideas and perspectives.	88.6%	84.8%

*Rating scale: 1 = 20%, 2 = 40%, 3 = 60%, 4 = 80%, and 5 = 100%.

- Note that "enthusiasm for the next session" was the third highest rated item overall in both phase one and phase three, and that "commitment: importance of the work" was the highest rated item overall in phase one (4.87 or 97.4%).

The Small Group Facilitators:

The highlights of the results on the small group discussion questions are:

WEEKEND SESSION SURVEY RESULTS: SMALL GROUPS	AVERAGE: PHASE 1	AVERAGE: PHASE 3
My discussion leader treated everyone with respect and valued all of our opinions.	95.8%*	97%
My discussion leader remained neutral and did not push his/her ideas on our group.	93.6%	96.2%
My discussion leader encouraged everyone to participate & participation was generally high.	92.4%	93.8%
My discussion leader answered questions of clarification satisfactorily.	N/A	92.4%
My discussion leader kept the discussion focused and moving forward.	88.8%	91.8%
The small group discussions helped clarify the issues and my opinions.	n/a	90.6%

*Rating scale: 1 = 20%, 2 = 40%, 3 = 60%, 4 = 80%, and 5 = 100%.

The hand written comments attest to the fact that these small group discussions were crucial opportunities for learning, asking questions of clarification, sharing ideas, testing theories, building consensus, generating solutions, and so on.

Appendix: Public Hearings Questionnaire

This table is an example of the survey tool used in the public hearings surveys.

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

Public Hearing Survey

Date and location of hearing:

SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY

1. What do you *like* or *dislike* about our current system of electing members to British Columbia's Legislative Assembly?

2. Do you feel a change is needed in our provincial electoral system? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please explain:

Instructions: please rate the following according to this six point scale:

STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	NO OPINION
1	2	3	4	5	0

Public Hearing Feedback	**RATING (1-5 or 0)**
3. At this hearing, I gained a better understanding of the Assembly and its work.	
4. The video was a valuable component of the hearing.	
5. The presenters were given adequate time to present and receive questions.	
6. I had sufficient opportunities to ask questions.	
7. The hearing was an effective opportunity to communicate my views.	
8. I have read the *Preliminary Statement to the People of BC*.	☐ No ☐ Yes

9. How did you learn about the Citizens' Assembly?

10. How did you hear about this public hearing?

11. What did you like *best* or *least* about this public hearing? (Or any general comments)

Return your completed survey to the registration table.
If you would like more space for your answers, please use the reverse side. Thank you for participating!

Appendix: Public Hearings Questionnaire (continued)

The following information is extracted from a report to the Assembly staff prepared by the external consultant.

Overall, the survey indicated the public hearings and the work of the Assembly and its members were appreciated and change was the greatest desire of the respondents.

Question #1: What do you like or dislike about our current system of electing members...?

1. Creates disproportionate representation: the popular vote is not represented, votes do not equal seats, a false majority is created.
2. Results in a two-party system: polarization, discourages diversity, minorities and small parties under-represented, winner takes all, one party dominates (becoming dictatorial or arrogant) with no effective opposition.
3. Forces people to vote strategically (e.g., so I don't waste vote), too many votes end up being wasted, don't count, or are meaningless. Votes for small parties are wasted and my voice is not heard if my party not elected.

Question #2: Do you feel a change is needed in our... electoral system?
Yes = 951 (95.6%). 45% of these respondents indicated greater proportionality was required.

Questions #3-7 dealt with process issues about the hearings.

QUESTION	RANKING BY QUESTION	RANGE OF SCORES
5. The presenters were given adequate time to present and receive questions.	4.4	3.9 to 5.0
6. I had sufficient opportunities to ask questions.	4.3	3.7 to 5.0
3. At this hearing, I gained a better understanding of the Assembly and its work.	4.2	3.3 to 4.7
7. The hearing was an effective opportunity to communicate my views.	4.0	3.2 TO 5.0
4. The video was a valuable component of the hearing.	3.8	2.4 to 4.7
Overall Average	4.15	

Question #8: I have read the Preliminary Statement to the People of BC.
Yes = 439 of 931 respondents (47.2%).

Question #9: How did you learn about the Citizens' Assembly?
Two thirds of respondents indicated the media. The other key sources (in order of frequency) were political parties and interest groups 8%, word of mouth 7%, and Citizens' Assembly media or member 4%.

Question #10: How did you hear about this public hearing?
53% of respondents indicated the media. The other key sources (in order of frequency) were the CA media and/or members (13%), word of mouth (9%) and political parties and interest groups (8%).

Appendix: Public Hearings Questionnaire (continued)

Question #11: What did you like best about this public hearing?

- Hearing multiple views in an unbiased forum;
- The CA in general;
- The structure and/or format of the meeting; and
- The quality of presenters (content of presentation as well as actual presentation).

Question #12: What did you like least about this public hearing?

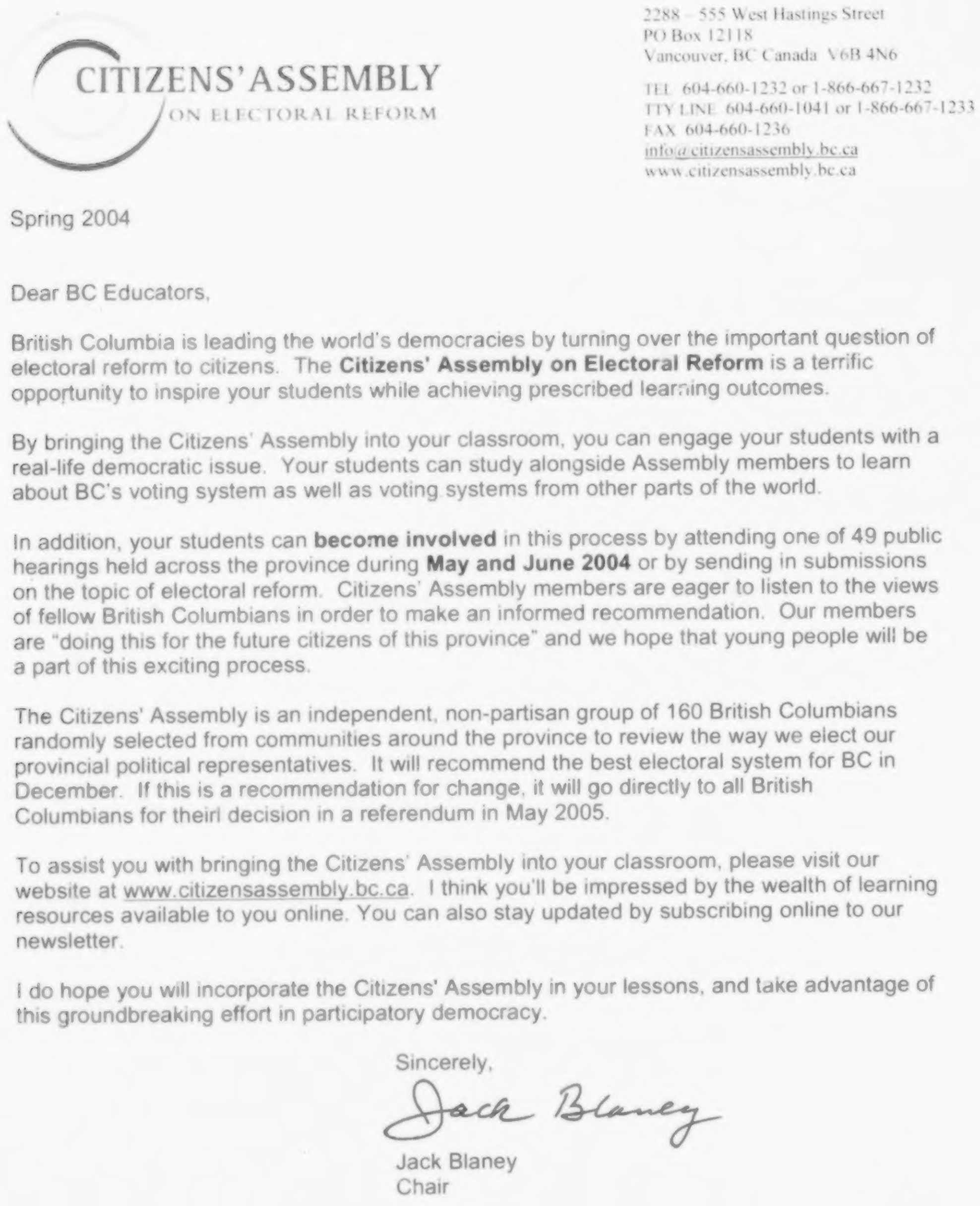
- Presenters—lack of focus, mumbling, confusing presentations, bias; and
- Comments by special interest groups.

Appendix: Fact Sheets

The following information can be found on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform's website.

- Fact sheet #1: Politics in BC: What do we want? (Word, 89 KB) (PDF, 173KB)
- Fact sheet #2: Assessing electoral systems (Word, 96 KB) (PDF, 213KB)
- Fact sheet #3: Legislatures, elections, representation, parties (Word, 114 KB) (PDF, 187KB)
- Fact sheet #4: Electoral experimentation in B.C. (Word, 95 KB) (PDF, 182KB)
- Fact sheet #5: Why electoral reform? (Word, 89 KB) (PDF, 185KB)
- Fact sheet #6: Understanding electoral systems (Word, 91 KB) (PDF, 212KB)
- Fact sheet #7: Electoral systems (Word, 97 KB) (PDF, 203KB)
- Fact sheet #8: Majority systems (Word,104 KB) (PDF, 216KB)
- Fact sheet #9: Plurality systems (Word, 118 KB) (PDF, 239KB)
- Fact sheet #10: Proportional representation - list systems (Word, 103 KB) (PDF, 228KB)
- Fact sheet #11: Proportional representation - single transferable vote (PR-STV) (Word, 97 KB) (PDF, 192KB)
- Fact sheet #12: Mixed electoral systems (Word, 111 KB) (PDF, 200KB)
- Fact sheet #13: Implications of electoral systems (Word, 109 KB) (PDF, 200KB)
- Fact sheet #14: Global activity in electoral reform (Word, 149 KB) (PDF, 231KB)
- Backgrounder on the Citizens' Assembly (PDF, 204KB)

Educational Resources



CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

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PO Box 12118
Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 4N6

TEL 604-660-1232 or 1-866-667-1232
TTY LINE 604-660-1041 or 1-866-667-1233
FAX 604-660-1236
info@citizensassembly.bc.ca
www.citizensassembly.bc.ca

Spring 2004

Dear BC Educators,

British Columbia is leading the world's democracies by turning over the important question of electoral reform to citizens. The **Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform** is a terrific opportunity to inspire your students while achieving prescribed learning outcomes.

By bringing the Citizens' Assembly into your classroom, you can engage your students with a real-life democratic issue. Your students can study alongside Assembly members to learn about BC's voting system as well as voting systems from other parts of the world.

In addition, your students can **become involved** in this process by attending one of 49 public hearings held across the province during **May and June 2004** or by sending in submissions on the topic of electoral reform. Citizens' Assembly members are eager to listen to the views of fellow British Columbians in order to make an informed recommendation. Our members are "doing this for the future citizens of this province" and we hope that young people will be a part of this exciting process.

The Citizens' Assembly is an independent, non-partisan group of 160 British Columbians randomly selected from communities around the province to review the way we elect our provincial political representatives. It will recommend the best electoral system for BC in December. If this is a recommendation for change, it will go directly to all British Columbians for theirl decision in a referendum in May 2005.

To assist you with bringing the Citizens' Assembly into your classroom, please visit our website at www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. I think you'll be impressed by the wealth of learning resources available to you online. You can also stay updated by subscribing online to our newsletter.

I do hope you will incorporate the Citizens' Assembly in your lessons, and take advantage of this groundbreaking effort in participatory democracy.

Sincerely,

Jack Blaney

Jack Blaney
Chair

BC's Democracy: Join in the Discussion

Becoming Active Citizens

The future is yours. That, you know. But what will it look like?

Right now, BC is asking an important question about its political future. The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform is reviewing the way we vote for our provincial political representatives.

Amazingly, the Citizens' Assembly is not made up of experts or politicians. Instead, it is a group of randomly selected people from around the province who have been given the power to recommend the best electoral system for BC. This has never – in all history – been done before.

You can get involved in this unique effort and help shape the outcome. Members of the Citizens' Assembly are asking the province: **What kind of voting system do YOU want in BC?** As youth, you will be voting longer than those who currently use the system, so your voice is extremely important in this discussion.

Capture this opportunity – while the Citizens' Assembly is in progress – to get involved and learn more about:

- Civic participation – how to make a difference
- Electoral systems – how votes determine who are chosen as our political representatives

Imagine voting in an electoral system that you helped shape…

Get Informed

This is truly an outstanding chance to learn about democracy while this exciting experiment unfolds. Everything about the Citizens' Assembly is open to the public, from the meetings and discussions, to the members' learning materials and Assembly reports. Members of the Assembly have found electoral systems to be strangely interesting and surprisingly important in shaping the political climate of our province.

Decide What's Important to You

Use Citizens' Assembly materials – such as those posted online in our *Learning Materials* pages – to learn about and compare various electoral systems. Watch or listen to the Assembly's learning sessions online. You can also follow the ongoing coverage in the media, or write a letter to the editor about your opinions. To invite a member to speak at your school, contact the Assembly office at info@citizensassembly.bc.ca

Get Involved

Bringing the Citizens' Assembly to your school, family and friends is more than just an exercise for your brain. To make the most appropriate recommendation for BC, members need to understand what is important to British Columbians. Students, teachers and all citizens have the very real opportunity of influencing this process by:

- Submitting an opinion on electoral reform
- Attending public hearings held across the province in May and June 2004 where citizens will join the discussion about the best electoral system for British Columbia
- Presenting your views at a public hearing

Online Resources

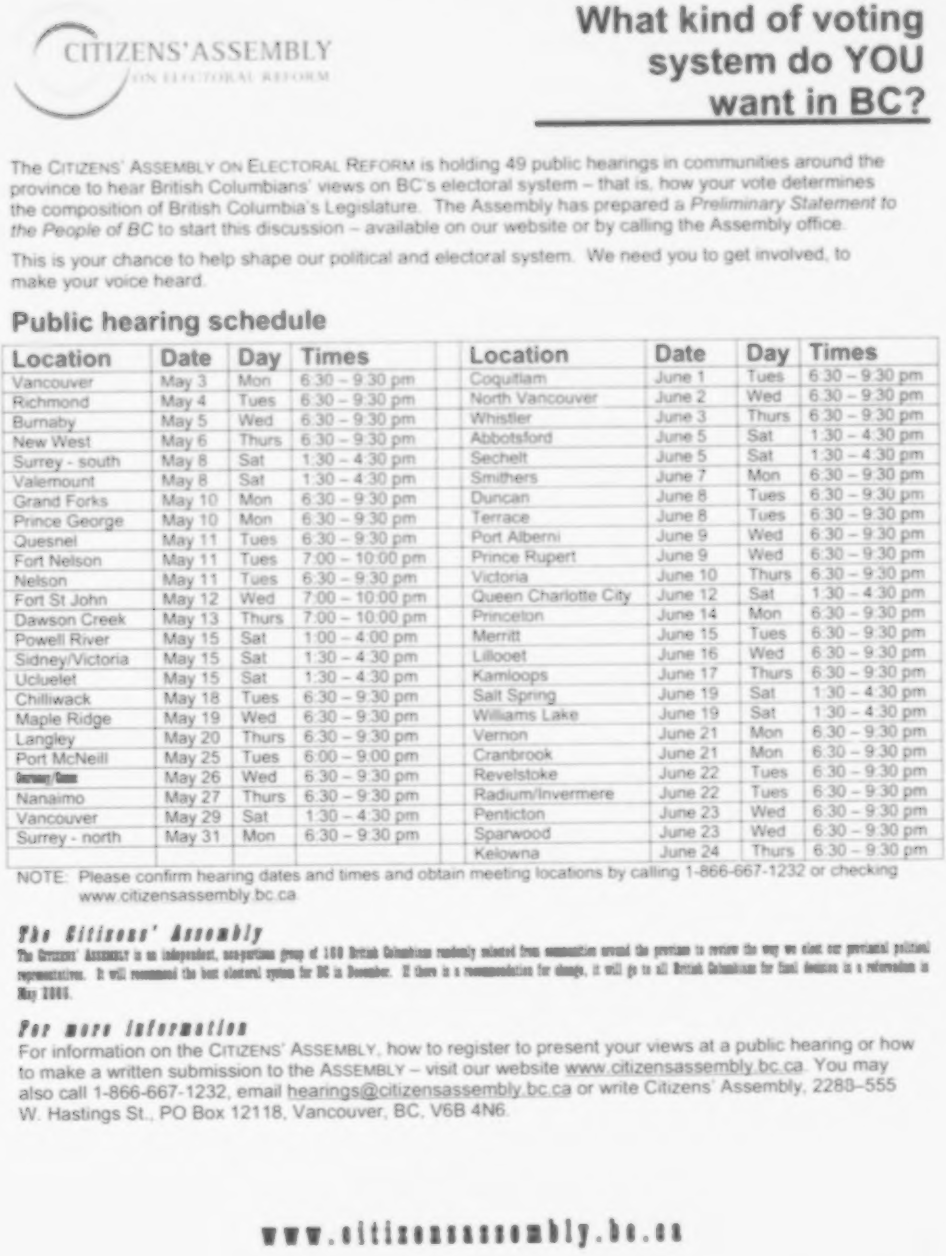
Check out our online *Learning Resources – Educational Resources* section for links to:

- An animated presentation that explains the various voting methods
- Youth voting websites
- Activities like "What makes a 'good' electoral system?" & "Should the electoral system be reformed"

Visit our comprehensive website for more information such as an online *Glossary* of electoral system words, *Members* biographies and photos and *Submissions* of opinion from people all over the world.

www.citizensassembly.bc.ca

Appendix: Educational Resources (continued)



CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

What kind of voting system do YOU want in BC?

The CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM is holding 49 public hearings in communities around the province to hear British Columbians' views on BC's electoral system – that is, how your vote determines the composition of British Columbia's Legislature. The Assembly has prepared a *Preliminary Statement to the People of BC* to start this discussion – available on our website or by calling the Assembly office.

This is your chance to help shape our political and electoral system. We need you to get involved, to make your voice heard.

Public hearing schedule

Location	Date	Day	Times		Location	Date	Day	Times
Vancouver	May 3	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Coquitlam	June 1	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Richmond	May 4	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm		North Vancouver	June 2	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Burnaby	May 5	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Whistler	June 3	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm
New West	May 6	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Abbotsford	June 5	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Surrey - south	May 8	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm		Sechelt	June 5	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Valemount	May 8	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm		Smithers	June 7	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Grand Forks	May 10	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Duncan	June 8	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Prince George	May 10	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Terrace	June 8	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Quesnel	May 11	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Port Alberni	June 9	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Fort Nelson	May 11	Tues	7:00 – 10:00 pm		Prince Rupert	June 9	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Nelson	May 11	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Victoria	June 10	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Fort St John	May 12	Wed	7:00 – 10:00 pm		Queen Charlotte City	June 12	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Dawson Creek	May 13	Thurs	7:00 – 10:00 pm		Princeton	June 14	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Powell River	May 15	Sat	1:00 – 4:00 pm		Merritt	June 15	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Sidney/Victoria	May 15	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm		Lillooet	June 16	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Ucluelet	May 15	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm		Kamloops	June 17	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Chilliwack	May 18	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Salt Spring	June 19	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Maple Ridge	May 19	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Williams Lake	June 19	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm
Langley	May 20	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Vernon	June 21	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Port McNeill	May 25	Tues	6:00 – 9:00 pm		Cranbrook	June 21	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm
[illegible]	May 26	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Revelstoke	June 22	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Nanaimo	May 27	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Radium/Invermere	June 22	Tues	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Vancouver	May 29	Sat	1:30 – 4:30 pm		Penticton	June 23	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
Surrey - north	May 31	Mon	6:30 – 9:30 pm		Sparwood	June 23	Wed	6:30 – 9:30 pm
					Kelowna	June 24	Thurs	6:30 – 9:30 pm

NOTE: Please confirm hearing dates and times and obtain meeting locations by calling 1-866-667-1232 or checking www.citizensassembly.bc.ca

The Citizens' Assembly

The CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY is an independent, non-partisan group of 160 British Columbians randomly selected from communities around the province to review the way we elect our provincial political representatives. It will recommend the best electoral system for BC in December. If there is a recommendation for change, it will go to all British Columbians for final decision in a referendum in May 2005.

For more information

For information on the CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY, how to register to present your views at a public hearing or how to make a written submission to the ASSEMBLY – visit our website www.citizensassembly.bc.ca. You may also call 1-866-667-1232, email hearings@citizensassembly.bc.ca or write Citizens' Assembly, 2288–555 W. Hastings St., PO Box 12118, Vancouver, BC, V6B 4N6.

www.citizensassembly.bc.ca

Appendix: Educational Resources (continued)

CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY
ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Summary of Online Educational Resources

Visit www.citizensassembly.bc.ca
Click on *Learning Resources > Educational Resources > School Materials* to find links to:

Prescribed learning outcomes - for Grades 5 and 8-12, related to studying the Citizens' Assembly

Citizens' Assembly *NEW* lesson aid package - *Assessing Electoral Systems: Opportunities for Political Education and Active Citizenship* is targeted to senior high school students

Lesson plans
- Electoral systems: what makes a "good" one?
- To what extent should the electoral system be reformed?
- Choosing your electoral system
- Comparison of First Past the Post and Proportional Representation
- Election simulation for elementary school students

Teaching aids
- Animated presentation that explains various voting methods and their advantages and disadvantages
- Citizens' Assembly learning phase presentations, handouts and recordings
- Module on parliamentary democracy – information, learning objectives and study questions

Voting education kits - built by Elections BC for Grades 5 and 11 to introduce youth to the basic principles of a provincial election

Word games - word scrambles, word searches and crosswords with electoral system vocabulary. Create your own and submit them to the Assembly, we'll post some online!

Math exercises - based on various electoral system counting methods

Letter to educators - from the Chair of the Assembly, Jack Blaney

Website links - to youth voting organizations, electoral reform and electoral system studies

Other online resources

- **Learning resources** – readings and presentations provided to members for study of electoral systems. Includes video and audio recordings
- **Citizens' Assembly in action** – information about the Assembly, its history, answers to frequently asked questions, members' profiles and records of meetings
- **Glossary** – of electoral reform and government terms
- **Submissions and presentations** – read the over 1600 written submissions about electoral reform and the over 380 presentation summaries from last spring's public hearings
- **Media** – news releases and photo gallery
- **Reports** – Read the *Preliminary Statement* and, in December, look for its *Final Report*
- **Newsletter** – subscribe and read our newsletter archives

Appendix: References

The source book used by the Citizens' Assembly for a general discussion of STV is:
Farrell, David M, Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave, 2001), especially chapter 6.

A useful if somewhat technical reference is:
Farrell, David M and Ian McAllister, 'The 1983 Change in Surplus Vote Transfer Procedures for the Australian Senate and its Consequences for the Single Transferable Vote', *Australian Journal of Political Science*, 38 (3) November 2003 pp. 479–491.

References to a range of information on the STV electoral system from a variety of countries can be found on the Citizens' Assembly website. Go to:

http://www.citizensassembly.bc.ca/public
and enter 'STV resources' in the search box.

An animation of how the BC-STV system works can be found on the Assembly website.

Appendix: Glossary

This list gives brief definitions of terms used to describe the governmental and electoral process in British Columbia. Words in bold are further explained elsewhere in the glossary. A full glossary of terms is available at:

http://www.citizensassembly.bc.ca/public/learning_resources/glossary

adversarial An adversarial political system is one dominated by a struggle for power between two rival party groupings. Politics is seen as highly competitive with little room for compromise. Actions by the governing party are always opposed by the opposition party. See also **consensus; majoritarian**.

assembly This term is sometimes used as an abbreviation for **legislative assembly**, the representative body which British Columbians elect as their parliament. More generally, it can refer to an elected body which forms part of the legislature, or to any group which claims to represent a political community; the Citizens' Assembly uses the term in this latter sense.

alternative vote (AV) The alternative vote is a preferential electoral system (see **preferential voting**) which requires a voter to number the names of the candidates on the ballot paper in the order of the voter's preference (that is, to rank the candidates by putting 1, 2, 3, etc. next to their names). If no candidate gains a majority of votes on the first count, the second preference listed on the ballots of the least successful candidate are distributed among the remaining candidates. This process continues until one candidate has a majority of votes. The alternative vote system can be supplemented by electing additional members to provide an opportunity for the representation of small parties; see mixed systems.

British Columbia used the alternative vote to elect members to the legislative assembly at the 1952 and 1953 general elections.

AV See **alternative vote**

ballot Ballots are the papers on which votes are recorded. A vote can be a single mark, or one or more marks or numbers to elect one or more candidates or parties (see electoral system). The term ballot can also be used to refer to the process of casting votes.

BC-STV See **single transferable vote** and the relevant sections elsewhere in this Report

BNA Act See **Constitution Act, 1867 (Canada)**

British North America Act 1867 See **Constitution Act, 1867 (Canada)**

by-election The death, resignation or disqualification of a **member of parliament** creates a casual vacancy in the chamber. At present, such vacancies in the **legislative assembly** can be filled by holding a special election called a by-election in the electoral district whose seat has become vacant. Some electoral systems do not require by-elections to fill vacancies but use some other procedure specified by the constitution or the electoral system.

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

cabinet The cabinet is a meeting of the **premier** and the **ministers** who together make key decisions about government administration and policy. Even though the cabinet plays a central role in the operation of **parliamentary government** in British Columbia, the responsibilities and operation of the cabinet are not written down in any formal constitutional document (see **constitution**).

candidate A candidate is someone who runs for office at an election. In British Columbia, a candidate is a person who is eligible to stand for election to the legislative assembly and who has fulfilled the requirements for nomination set out in the **Election Act (British Columbia)** (part 5, division 1). These include being supported by 25 voters in the electoral district in which the candidate intends to run, and making a deposit of $100.

Almost all successful candidates are members of political parties and parties themselves have procedures for choosing candidates. The process of nominating candidates is a vital one for a political party; by choosing a candidate, it permits that candidate to use the party label and to contest the election in the name of the party. See also **nomination; party discipline**.

casual vacancy A casual vacancy is the technical term used for a vacancy in the membership of the **legislative assembly** which occurs between **general elections**. Such vacancies can occur because of the death, resignation or disqualification of a member of the legislative assembly. Such vacancies can be filled by holding a by-election or through some other procedure specified by the constitution or the electoral system.

caucus Caucus is a meeting of the members of parliament who belong to a particular **party** (as in, the Liberal caucus, the NDP caucus). Meetings of caucus—which are usually held in private—may discuss a wide range of topics of concern to party members, including the policies to be followed by the party and parliamentary tactics. Caucus meetings are an important forum for the exchange of information between the party leaders, **ministers** (if the party is in government), and the back bench. In the past, voting at a meeting of the party caucus was used in Canada as a common way of choosing the party leader. Today, leaders are usually chosen at a party convention, or by direct ballot of all the party members.

coalition A coalition is a grouping of two (and occasionally more than two) **political parties** which work together to win government or to increase their influence in a representative assembly. The coalition parties may indicate before an election that they intend to work together if they win office, or coalition agreements may be formed after the election when it is clear that no single party has a majority of seats. See also **majority government**.

consensus (system) In contrast to a **majoritarian** or **adversarial system**, a consensus system aims to disperse power among a number of political institutions, actors and parties so that government policy requires compromise and the accommodation of a range of views before action can be taken. Consensus systems do not regard bare majority support as sufficient to legitimize government action—broader support is required so that as many groups as possible can be

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

persuaded of the merits of the action. Electoral systems with **proportional representation** are seen as consensus systems because they are more likely to produce coalition governments and the need for parties to compromise over their policies.

constituency This term is often used interchangeably with riding to refer to an **electoral district** of the **legislative assembly**. It can also refer to the audience, interested public, or interest group which is the concern of a particular member of parliament.

constitution A constitution is a set of rules which describes the key institutions of government—particularly the composition of the legislature and the executive— and specifies the procedures which government institutions must follow if their actions are to be authoritative. A constitution can be thought of as a higher law because it limits what governments can do.

Constitutional documents vary in what they contain and how much detail they provide about the day-to-day operation of government. British derived constitutional documents typically say little about the institutions of executive government, especially the role of the **premier**, **ministers**, the **cabinet** and the relationship between these institutions and parliament.

Many of the constitutional rules establishing the government of the Province of British Columbia can be found in the **Constitution Act (British Columbia)**.

Constitution Act (British Columbia) This provincial constitutional document sets out many of the rules relating to the operation of the **legislative assembly** and executive government in British Columbia, but it is far from a complete specification of the operation of government in the Province. Some of the rules relating to the conduct of government can be found in other provincial acts of parliament or official documents; others rely on accepted practices which are not set out in formal constitutional documents. These unwritten rules are sometimes called constitutional conventions. (A copy of the Act can be found on the Queen's Printer website (http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/default.htm). Note that the web version of the Act may not include the most recent amendments.)

Constitution Act, 1867 (Canada) This Act (known before 1982 as the *British North America Act* or simply the *BNA Act*) is a component of the Canadian Constitution together with the *Constitution Act 1982* which includes the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The 1867 Act established the confederation of Canada by setting up a new national government and dividing law-making power between the national government and the provinces. One of its provisions sets out the procedures for appointing and removing the lieutenant governors of the provinces. (A copy of the Act can be found on the web (http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/const/).

democracy Democracy has become an imprecise term but, at its core, it refers to the belief that governments should be responsive to the wishes of the majority of citizens. This explains why elections and democracy are often thought of as being closely related; elections provide a means of choosing a government acceptable to the majority of voters and, by electing a representative assembly, creating a body which can make governments accountable. But what we think of as democratic government needs more than just elections; it requires a constitutional structure (see **constitution**) and a set of rules which protect minorities and individuals as well as majorities. See also **representative democracy**.

district magnitude (DM) This term refers to the number of representatives to be elected from an **electoral district**. See also: **multimember district**; **single member district**.

Droop quota (formula) In counting votes for electing candidates under a single transferable vote electoral system, the minimum number of votes needed for a candidate to be elected (the quota) can be calculated by using the Droop quota formula. The quota is calculated as follows: first, the total valid vote in the electoral district is divided by one plus the number of members to be elected; then, one is added to the total (fractions are ignored).

The Droop quota is the smallest number of votes needed to elect enough candidates to fill all the seats being contested in an electoral district, while being just big enough to prevent any more being elected. If the Droop formula is applied to a single member district, the quota is the total votes (100 percent) divided by 1 plus the number of members to be elected (1); the result is 100 divided by 2 which gives 50 percent plus one vote—a share of the vote that only one candidate can get.

H R Droop was an English lawyer who suggested this formula in 1868 as a component of an electoral system.

Election Act (British Columbia) The *Election Act* sets out the administrative machinery for running elections in the Province. In 2004, it has 283 sections dealing with the many aspects of organizing an election including the appointment and duties of electoral officials, the qualifications and registration of voters, the procedures for calling an election, the procedures for the nomination of candidates, the arrangements for voting, the scrutiny and counting of votes, the registration of parties, the monitoring of election expenditure and political advertising, and the penalties for breaching the rules laid out in the Act. (A copy of the Act can be found on the Queen's Printer website (http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/default.htm). Note that the text may not include the most recent amendments.)

electoral district The geographical area from which one or more representatives is chosen at an election is called an electoral district. Electoral districts are also called ridings or constituencies. The number of members to be chosen from an electoral district is often called its district magnitude. At present the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia is composed of 79 members each elected from one of 79 single member electoral districts (district magnitude of 1); see also **district magnitude**; **multimember district**; **single member district**; **SMP**.

electoral formula The electoral formula is the rule which governs the translation of votes into seats. The electoral formula for the current electoral system in British Columbia is a simple one: the candidate who wins more votes than any other in each electoral district is elected.

There are many different kinds of electoral formulas, but they can be grouped into a number of families: plurality systems where seats are won by the **candidate** with the most votes even if the candidate does not get a majority of votes; majority systems where candidates must get a majority of votes to be elected (see **alternative vote**); proportional systems (see **proportional representation**) where the parties fielding candidates are represented in proportion to the votes won by each party or candidate; and **mixed systems** which combine two of these systems.

electoral rules The whole body of rules regulating all aspects of an election; see **Election Act (British Columbia)**; **electoral system**.

electoral system The simplest definition of an electoral system is that it is the set of rules for translating votes cast at an election into seats for a **representative assembly** according to a specified electoral formula. Another way of defining an electoral system is to say that it comprises the **electoral formula**, the **ballot** structure, and the number of members in each **electoral district** (the **district magnitude**).

electorate The electorate is the whole body of electors. The term is also used occasionally to mean a single electoral district.

endorsed (candidate), endorsement See **candidate**; **nomination**; **party**; **party discipline**.

first-past-the-post (FPTP) A first past the post electoral system is one in which the candidate with a plurality of votes wins the seat in a single member district. British Columbia currently uses a FPTP electoral system for electing members to the legislative assembly. See **majority**.

FPTP see **first-past-the-post**

general election A general election is an election for all the seats in the **legislative assembly**. Vacancies which occur as a result of the death, resignation or disqualification of a member of parliament in between general elections can be filled at a **by-election**. See also **casual vacancy**.

government In everyday language, the government is the label given to the whole structure of public sector activities but the term also has narrower meanings. Where there is a distinction made between the government and the parliament, government refers to the **ministers** and public officials who steer the day-to-day operation of departments and agencies, as opposed to the debating, scrutinizing and law making activities which occur in parliament. The **premier** and other ministers, as members of parliament, are politically responsible for government policy and collectively form what is sometimes called the government of the day (see also **cabinet**). In this narrow sense, the government is the premier and the body of ministers commissioned to implement the policies of the **party** or **coalition** which has the support of a majority of the members of the legislative assembly. See also **parliamentary system**.

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

Gregory (method) In counting votes under a **single transferable vote system**, if a candidate has more than the minimum number of votes needed to be elected (see Droop quota), a procedure is needed to allocate the surplus votes to other candidates. The may be done by taking a number of ballots equal to the surplus at random from the ballots of the successful candidate and assigning votes to the next available preference shown on the ballot (that is, to candidates who have not already been elected or excluded).

In 1880, J B Gregory contended that this process of random selection could produce varying results depending on the choice of the randomly selected ballots used for making the transfers to other candidates. He suggested that all the relevant ballots should be recounted, assigned to other candidates according to the preferences of the voters, but at a reduced value called the transfer value. The transfer value is calculated by dividing the surplus votes by the total number of relevant votes.

There are three variations of the Gregory method which differ as to the definition of 'relevant votes' for calculating the transfer value. Gregory's original suggestion was that only the ballots that last contributed to the creation of the surplus votes should be counted (the Gregory last parcel method). Some Australian elections use a second method, the Inclusive Gregory method, where relevant votes are defined as all the votes that contributed to a candidate's surplus. The **BC-STV** system recommended by the Citizen's Assembly uses the Weighted Inclusive Gregory method under which all votes are counted and assigned to other candidates still in the count according to the voters' preferences, but the ballots are given separate transfer values depending on their origin (that is, whether they are first preferences, or transfers from one or more other candidates).

The Citizens' Assembly decided that the Weighted Inclusive Gregory method was most in keeping with the goals of proportional representation by the single transferable vote, was fairer to the voters than the other options, and did not add significantly to the task of counting (or recounting) ballots.

independent An independent **candidate** or member of parliament is one who is not a member of a political **party**. Independents have been elected to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, the last being in 1949. A member elected to the legislative assembly as a member of a party may subsequently decide to leave the party and sit as an independent.

legislative assembly The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia has been the elected component of the Province's parliamentary system of government since the establishment of self-government in the Province in 1871. It is currently a representative body of 79 members elected from single member districts for a term of four years unless dissolved earlier (see fixed term; dissolution). The government must maintain the support of a majority of the members of the Assembly to stay in office. The functions of the legislative assembly include passing legislation, authorizing the raising and expenditure of public money, scrutinizing the activities of government, raising issues

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

of public concern, investigating matters of public interest, and acting as a forum for publicizing the concerns of individuals and groups throughout British Columbia.

All Canadian provinces have a representative assembly which discharges similar functions. All but three provincial assemblies are called the legislative assembly; Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador each have a house of assembly, and Quebec has a national assembly.

legislature The legislature is the law making component of government. In the case of British Columbia, the legislature is the **legislative assembly**, although it should be noted that legislation which has passed though the legislative assembly does not become law until it is assented to by the lieutenant governor. To this extent, the legislature of British Columbia is the legislative assembly and the lieutenant governor acting in the name of the Crown. See also **assembly**; **parliamentary system**; **representative democracy**.

list system (of proportional representation) List systems are one of two families of electoral systems using proportional representation. Proportional representation by the list system is based on the voter choosing between lists of candidates provided by political parties. While there are many ways of counting votes under a list system, and some versions permit voters to select their preferred candidate from a **party** list (open list or flexible list systems), list systems are based on the representation of parties as organizations rather than individual **candidates**.

In the simplest list systems, an elector votes for a party list, and the share of votes gained by each party list is matched by a similar proportion of seats in the assembly. If a party wins 30 percent of the votes for an assembly of 100 members, the party is assigned 30 seats, the members being the top 30 of a list of candidates provided by the party before the election.

local member Under the current single member plurality electoral system used in British Columbia, each **electoral district** has one member who is often described as the local member. Many British Columbians value having a local member as someone who is aware of local issues and can help constituents in their dealings with government departments.

majoritarian This term is used in a general sense to refer to a system of government where power is concentrated in a single governing party which controls a parliamentary executive having broad constitutional powers to act in the name in the majority. See also **adversarial**; **consensus**.

A majoritarian electoral system is one which privileges parties which win a majority of parliamentary seats even if they do no gain a majority of votes. **Single member plurality** systems and the **alternative vote** system are seen a majoritarian electoral systems.

majority A majority of votes or seats is one more than half the total number of votes or seats; fifty percent plus one. See also **plurality**.

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

majority system A majority electoral system is one which requires candidates to gain a majority of votes before they are elected. The two most common majority systems are the **alternative vote** and the second ballot. See also **plurality**.

majority government A majority government is one which is supported by a majority of members of the **legislative assembly**, all of whom are members of the same political **party**. This is in contrast with a **coalition** government where a parliamentary majority is composed of the members of two (and occasionally more than two) political parties, both of whom have **ministers** in the government. It can also be contrasted with a **minority government** where the governing party does not hold a majority of seats but is kept in office by the support of one or more parties or **independent** members who do not contribute ministers in the government.

While British Columbia has experienced only majority governments since 1953, there were coalition governments between 1941 and 1952 (Liberal and Conservative parties), and a minority government (Social Credit) from 1952 to 1953.

member of the legislative assembly (MLA) This is the title of someone who is elected to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. The abbreviation MLA can be used as shorthand for a **member of the legislative assembly**.

member of parliament A member of parliament is a member of any representative assembly which is part of a parliamentary system. See also **member of the legislative assembly**.

minister A government minister in British Columbia is (almost always) a member of the **legislative assembly** who is commissioned by the lieutenant governor on the advice of the **premier** to be responsible for one or more government departments or areas of government activity. These responsibilities comprise the minister's portfolio or portfolios. All the ministers in a government, including the premier, are known collectively as the ministry and meet as the **cabinet** to make decisions about government policy and administration. The lieutenant governor, acting on the advice of the premier, can terminate a minister's commission. The resignation or termination of the commission of a premier terminates the commissions of all the ministers in that government.

It is assumed that ministers will be, or will become, members of parliament but this is not specified in the Province's constitutional documents; see **Constitution Act (British Columbia)**.

minority government A minority government is one where the governing party does not control a majority of seats in the **assembly**, and has not formed a **coalition** agreement with another party in the assembly to establish a parliamentary majority and to share ministerial posts. A minority government is kept in power by an understanding that the government will gain the support of another **party** (or one or more **independent** members) who will vote to support the government. This support does not involve the party becoming part of the government's ministerial team, and the support may not extend to supporting all of the government's legislative program.

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

The essence of a minority government is that the support keeping the government in office can be withdrawn at any time, triggering the loss of the government's majority in the assembly. Loss of majority support in the assembly gives the premier two choices: the premier can resign in favour of another member of the assembly who can form a government which has the support of a majority of assembly members; or—and this will be the usual outcome—the premier can recommend to the lieutenant-governor that parliament is dissolved and a general election is held.

Minority governments are not necessarily unstable or short lived if they can come to an agreement with another party to support the government— the Liberal minority government in Ontario from 1985 to 1987, for example, entered into a formal accord with the Ontario New Democratic Party. Even with this support, the government must work continually to gain support beyond its own partisan supporters for every piece of legislation. Such a situation makes governments extremely responsive to the views of members of parliament, and open to parliamentary scrutiny in ways which rarely occur under majority governments.

mixed member proportional (MMP) The mixed member proportional (MMP) system is a mixed system of representation which usually combines a **single member plurality** electoral system with a **list system** of proportional representation to achieve an assembly whose **party** composition reflects the proportion of votes cast for each party. Voters are required to vote for both a local member and a preferred party (sometimes this is combined into a single choice for a candidate and party), and the assembly is made up of members who are elected from single member electoral districts and members who are elected from party lists. This system has been adopted for the German lower house (the Bundestag) and, more recently, by New Zealand's House of Representatives. This mixed system aims to combine the advantages of geographical representation (the **local member**) with the **proportional representation** of parties.

mixed systems It has become common over the last decade for electoral systems to combine two electoral formulas for the choice of candidates for a **representative assembly**. New Zealand, for example, has adopted a system which combines a **single member plurality** system with a **list system** of proportional representation (see **mixed member proportional (MMP)**). While most mixed systems aim to achieve proportional outcomes—the vote share of a party is matched by a similar share of seats in the assembly—this is not always the case. Some mixed systems such as that used for the Japanese House of Representatives produce outcomes which favour large parties. These systems are sometimes called mixed member majority systems (MMM).

MLA See **member of the legislative assembly**

MMM See **mixed systems**

MMP See **mixed member proportional**

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

multimember district A multimember district is an **electoral district** which returns more than one member to a **representative assembly**. The number of members returned from an electoral district is called the **district magnitude**. Multimember districts have district magnitudes greater than one.

British Columbia has a long history of using multimember districts for the legislative assembly. From the first election for the legislative assembly in 1871 until 1986, multimember districts were used to elect a substantial proportion of the members. Two, three, four, five and six member districts have been used, with multimember districts of three or more sometimes being used for the urban areas of Vancouver and Victoria.

The Citizens' Assembly has recommended that British Columbia adopt multimember districts as a component of the BC-STV electoral system. Sparsely settled and remote areas of the province may have electoral districts with as few as two members, while densely populated regions may have electoral districts with from 5 to 7 members.

nomination Nomination is the process of fulfilling the requirements for becoming a **candidate** at an election. It has two components: an official component requiring the candidate to fulfil the formal requirements specified under the **Election Act (British Columbia)**, and a partisan component requiring a candidate who wants to run under a party label to gain the endorsement of a party.

parliament Parliament is the general name given to **representative assemblies** in Canada. In British Columbia it refers to the **legislative assembly**. These bodies make the laws which regulate our social and economic life and provide the authority for government action. Note that the Parliament of British Columbia comprises the legislative assembly and the lieutenant governor acting in the name of the Crown; laws cannot be made without the assent of the lieutenant governor. The executive can also delay or defer the date on which legislation comes into force. This arrangement strengthens the already considerable power of the government of the day to control the process of law making. See **parliamentary government**; **parliamentary system**.

parliamentary government Parliamentary government is a system of representative democracy in which the most important executive officials are chosen from among the members of an elected assembly; see **parliamentary system**.

parliamentary system A parliamentary system of government is one of the two basic forms of **representative democracy**. The distinguishing characteristic of parliamentary government is that the government of the day is chosen from representatives who have been elected to a parliamentary assembly. That is, the most important elected offices of government—the **premier** or prime minister and the other **ministers** who together with the premier form the **government**—are not elected directly but indirectly through parliamentary elections. Since the emergence of **parties** with strong **party discipline**, parliamentary government has meant that governments in Canada usually have control over stable parliamentary majorities (see **majority government**).

This greatly reduces the ability of parliamentary assemblies to challenge the wishes of the government of the day in parliament.

Parliamentary systems make a distinction between the head of government (the **premier** or prime minister) who is the chief elected official in the government, and the head of state who represents the formal exercise of executive power (in British Columbia the lieutenant governor in the name of the Crown).

The other system of representative democracy is presidential government. In this system, the president who is both head of government and head of state, is elected separately from a representative assembly. Ministers are not usually permitted to be members of the assembly but are appointed by the president. Presidential systems combine the offices of head of government and head of state in the president, but aim to check the power of the government of the day by separating power between the president and a powerful legislature (see executive).

party The Constitution Act (British Columbia) provides a definition of a party as '…an affiliation of electors comprised in a political organization whose prime purpose is the fielding of candidates for election to the legislative assembly…' (section 1). For a party's name to appear on the ballot paper at an election for the legislative assembly, and for a party to gain tax and other financial benefits, the party must be registered under the Election Act (Part 9).

Parties as we know them today first contested elections in British Columbia in 1903. Before that date, government majorities were maintained by loose groups of members of the legislature united by a general stance on public policy, by loyalty to a particular leader, or by the hope of advancement. The label 'ministerialist' is often given to governments which operated in such a system. See also **caucus**; **party discipline**; **independent**.

party discipline Modern parties are disciplined in the sense that, once elected to a representative assembly under the label of a party, it is expected that the member will adhere to the general principles and platform of the party and will vote with his or her colleagues in the assembly. If the member does not conform to the decisions of the party, he or she may be threatened with expulsion from the party **caucus** and the withdrawal of the party's endorsement at the next election (see **nomination**). This is a powerful inducement for members to conform to the party line. It is the price that members must pay for using the party label to gain election, and to gain the benefits of party membership.

plurality A party which gains a plurality of votes or seats is one which has more votes than any other party, but does not have a **majority** of votes or seats.

plurality (electoral) system A plurality electoral system is one which permits candidates to win seats even though they do not gain a **majority** of votes; see **first past the post**; **single member plurality system**.

political party See **party**

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

PR See **proportional representation**

preferential voting Any electoral system which requires voters to rank candidates on a ballot paper by numbering them in the order of the voter's preference, is a preferential voting system. The **alternative vote** and proportional representation by the **single transferable vote** method require voters to number their ballots under a system of preferential voting. British Columbia used preferential voting with the alternative vote for the 1952 and 1953 general elections in the Province.

The **BC-STV** electoral system recommended by the Citizens' Assembly uses preferential voting.

premier The premier is the name given to the head of government of the Province of British Columbia and is the Province's chief elected executive official. The premier is commissioned by the lieutenant governor to form a **government** which has the support of a majority of members of the **legislative assembly**. The premier is usually the leader of the political **party** which has won a majority of seats in the legislative assembly. See also **coalition**; **majority government**; **minority government**; **minister**; **parliamentary system**.

Although the premier is mentioned in the **Constitution Act (British Columbia)** as president of the Executive Council (section 9(1)), the position and role of the premier in the governmental system is not well specified in provincial constitutional documents. Even though the premier is the most important political office in the province, the functions and responsibilities of the premier as head of government are left to customary practices rather than constitutional law (see **Constitution Act (British Columbia)**).

proportionality The view that a party's share of votes should be matched by a similar share of seats in the **legislative assembly** rests on an idea of representation which stresses the importance of proportionality. Those who argue that fairness— in the sense of producing proportional outcomes—is the most important component of an electoral system, favour **proportional representation**.

proportional representation (PR) Proportional representation refers to a family of electoral systems which stress the importance of ensuring that the proportion of seats won by a party in a representative assembly reflects as closely as possible the proportion of votes won by the party. These systems often use more complicated procedures than other electoral systems for counting votes and allocating seats, but the basic principle on which they are based is straightforward—a representative assembly should reflect the distribution of opinion in the political community as closely as possible. There are two broad ways in which proportional representation can be achieved: the list system and the **single transferable vote** (STV) system. Proportional outcomes can also be achieved by mixing proportional representation with a non-proportional system; see **mixed member proportional** (MMP) systems. See also **mixed systems**; **seat share**; **vote share**.

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

The single transferable vote system of proportional representation is sometimes called a quota preferential systems because it uses quotas for working out which candidates are to be elected.

All systems of proportional representation require **multimember districts** or at large elections.

quota Under the single transferable vote system of **proportional representation**, the quota is the minimum number of votes required for a candidate to be elected. The quota will vary according to the number of members to be elected from the **electoral district** (district magnitude) and the formula used. See **Droop quota**.

representation The notion of representation is a complex one but at its core is the idea that one thing can stand for another. Parliamentary democracy is based on the premise that an elected **assembly** can represent the interests of the political community as a whole. Electoral laws are components of this system of representation. What is to be represented and how the representation is to be accomplished are key questions for the design of an electoral system for a parliamentary assembly.

representative assembly See **assembly**

representative democracy A democratic political system is now assumed to be one in which periodic elections are held to choose key executive and legislative office holders and to keep the government responsive and accountable to citizen voters. That is, popular control of government is achieved indirectly through the election of representatives to act on behalf of the political community. It is now usually taken for granted that democracy means representative democracy rather than direct democracy.

responsible government The term responsible government is often used to describe the relationship between the **government**—the **premier** and other **ministers**—and **the legislative assembly** in British style parliamentary systems. It refers to the fact that the political executive—the premier and ministers—are chosen from and accountable to an elected parliament. In this respect it is a synonym for **parliamentary government**.

Responsible government also suggests that ministers are individually and collectively responsible to parliament for the actions of government. This is true in a broad sense—the government will be held accountable for its actions at the next general election—but it is less true if it implies that ministers will be held to account for their actions by parliament. The existence of disciplined political **parties** has meant that ministers can usually escape punishment for reckless or incompetent actions by themselves or their departments by blaming an advisor or a public servant. Punishment is only meted out to ministers if the premier (or prime minister) assesses that the minister has become a political liability to the government as a whole.

riding See **electoral district**

seat A seat is shorthand for a member of a representative assembly. The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia has 79 seats, that is, it is made up of 79 members.

seat share The seat share of a party is the proportion of seats it has won at a general election for a representative assembly. It can be compared with the party' vote share to see if the seat share is proportional to the votes cast; see proportional representation.

single member district This is an **electoral district** which is represented by a single member of a representative assembly. See also **district magnitude**; **local member**.

single member plurality system (SMP) This electoral system is the system currently used in British Columbia for the **legislative assembly**. See **first past the post**; **local member**; **majority**; **plurality**; **single member district**.

single transferable vote (STV) Single transferable vote (STV) systems are one of two families of **proportional representation**. Proportional representation by the single transferable vote method is based on the idea that the range of opinion in the community should be mirrored in the composition of the representative assembly. While there are many ways in which STV can be modified, it rests on the assumption that voters can choose between **candidates** rather than **parties**. Voters are required to rank candidates in the voters' order of preference by numbering the candidates on the ballot (see preferential voting). The ballots are then counted in a way which ensures that as many ballots as possible contribute to the election of a candidate of the voters' choice. The procedures for doing this can be complicated, but the principle is straightforward—that a variety of minority as well as majority opinions are represented in the assembly, provided that the minorities have a large enough proportion of votes to cross the threshold for representation. This threshold is set by the quota of votes needed for representation and can vary depending on the details of the STV system to be used; see **Droop quota**.

The details of the **BC-STV** recommended for British Columbia by the Citizens' Assembly can be found elsewhere in this Report. See also **Gregory method**.

SMP See **single member plurality system**

spoiled ballot A spoiled ballot (or vote) is a **ballot** paper which cannot be counted towards a candidate's or party's total vote because the ballot is incorrectly filled in or has marks or writing on it which break electoral rules for the validity of the ballot. The more complicated the ballot, the higher the likelihood of spoiled ballots.

STV See **single transferable vote**

threshold In its narrow sense, this term refers to the minimum proportion of the vote required to gain representation under any given **electoral formula**. This is particularly important in proportional systems because the threshold affects the number of small parties which can gain representation (see **proportional representation**).

Appendix: Glossary (continued)

It can also be used more broadly to indicate the minimum proportion of votes, or the minimum number of seats, which must be won before a party can gain representation under an electoral system. Under the German **MMP** system, for example, a party must win 5 percent of the votes or three electoral districts before its vote share can be matched by the appropriate proportion of seats. These rules are designed to prevent the representation of very small parties.

transfer value See **Gregory method**

turnout The proportion of voters on the voters list who go to a polling place on election day and cast a vote, is called the turnout. The turnout for the British Columbia provincial general election held in 2001 was 71.0 percent.

vote share The vote share of a **party** is the proportion (expressed as a percentage) of the total valid votes won by a party at a general election. It can be compared with the party's **seat share** to see if the seat share is proportional to the votes cast. See **proportional representation**.

Weighted Inclusive Gregory (method) See **Gregory method**

Westminster system This term is often used to describe the British variant of **parliamentary government**. While the term and the British parliamentary tradition are frequently applied to describe the Canadian parliamentary system, Canadian parliamentary institutions differ significantly from the British system, most notably in the limitations on parliamentary government imposed by the federal system and the entrenchment of key sections of the Canadian Constitution, judicial review of government action and legislation, and the existence of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The most important common factor between the British and Canadian parliamentary traditions is a monarchical executive and the failure of constitutional documents to specify the roles, functions and responsibilities of the head of state, head of government and the relationship between the premier, ministers and parliament.

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